Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

THE WATCHTOWER

Question: Some people think that the Bible is outdated, while others believe that it still has value. What's your opinion?

Scripture: **2Ti 3:16, 17**

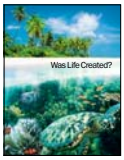
Offer: This issue of *The Watchtower* highlights examples of the Bible's practical wisdom and offers suggestions on how to get the most out of your Bible reading.

TEACH THE TRUTH

Question: Is the end of the world near?

Scripture: **Mt 24:3, 7, 14**

Truth: Bible prophecy shows that we are living in the time of the end. But this is good news—it means that better times are just ahead.



WAS LIFE CREATED?

Question: Do you think it's more reasonable to believe that God created life or that life began by chance?

Offer: This brochure reviews evidence that has led many to believe in an intelligent Creator. I'd like to return and discuss the question posed on page 29: "Does it matter what you believe?"

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

- Song 147 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Takes Care of His People":** (10 min.)

  Isa 25:4, 5—Jehovah is a spiritual refuge to all who want to serve him (*ip-1* 272 ¶5)

  Isa 25:6—Jehovah has kept his promise to provide an abundance of spiritual food (*w16.05* 24 ¶4; *ip-1* 273 ¶6-7)

  Isa 25:7, 8—Sin and death will soon be done away with forever (*w14* 9/15 26 ¶15; *ip-1* 273-274 ¶8-9)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Isa 26:15—How can we help as Jehovah extends "all the borders of the land"? (*w15* 7/15 11 ¶18)

  Isa 26:20—What appears to be linked to the foretold "inner rooms"? (*w13* 3/15 23 ¶15-16)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Isa 28:1-13

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion based on "Sample Presentations." Play each presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. During January, publishers have the option of offering the brochure *The Origin of Life—Five Questions Worth Asking* if they meet someone who would benefit from a more in-depth discussion about evidence of a Creator. Encourage them to be alert for opportunities to play the video *Was Life Created?*

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 2
- **Local Needs:** (15 min.) As an option, discuss the lessons learned from the *Yearbook*. (*yb16* 140-142)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 6 ¶8-15, box on p. 63
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 37 and Prayer

ISAIAH 24-28 | Jehovah Takes Care of His People

Like a generous host, Jehovah supplies us with an abundance of spiritual food.

25:6

"Jehovah of armies will make for all the peoples a banquet"

- In Bible times, when people ate a meal together, it signified peace and friendship

"Of rich dishes filled with marrow, of fine, filtered wine"

- Rich dishes and fine, filtered wine picture the very best of spiritual food that Jehovah provides for us

- Song 103 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"A King Will Reign for Righteousness":** (10 min.)

  Isa 32:1—The King who will reign for righteousness is Jesus Christ (*w14* 2/15 6 ¶13)

  Isa 32:2—The enthroned Jesus provides princes to care for the flock (*ip-1* 332-334 ¶7-8)

  Isa 32:3, 4—Jehovah's people are given instruction and training that help them demonstrate righteousness (*ip-1* 334-335 ¶10-11)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Isa 30:21—In what ways does Jehovah communicate with his servants? (*w14* 8/15 21 ¶2)

  Isa 33:22—When and how did Jehovah become Judge, Lawgiver, and King for the nation of Israel? (*w14* 10/15 14 ¶4)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Isa 30:22-33

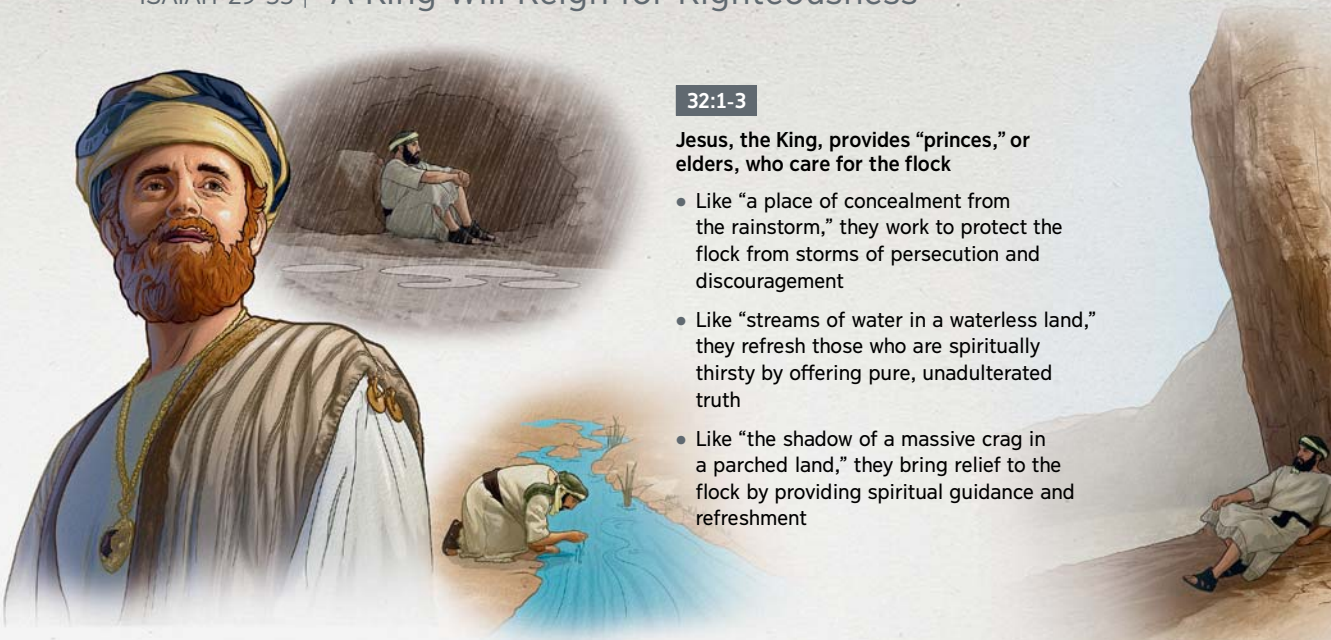
APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *wp17.1* cover—Respond to an irate householder.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *wp17.1* cover—Read scriptures from a mobile device.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *lv* 31-32 ¶12-13 —Demonstrate how to reach the heart.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 87
- ***"A Hiding Place From the Wind"* (Isa 32:2):** (9 min.) Play the video (video category PROGRAMS AND EVENTS).
- ***Pay Attention at the Meetings:*** (6 min.) Play the video (video category CHILDREN). Afterward, invite selected young children to the stage, and ask them: What could cause you not to pay attention during the meetings? What might have happened if Noah had not paid attention when Jehovah explained how to build the ark? Why is it important for children to pay attention during the meetings?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 6 ¶16-24, review box on p. 67
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 21 and Prayer

ISAIAH 29-33 | "A King Will Reign for Righteousness"



32:1-3

Jesus, the King, provides "princes," or elders, who care for the flock

- Like "a place of concealment from the rainstorm," they work to protect the flock from storms of persecution and discouragement
- Like "streams of water in a waterless land," they refresh those who are spiritually thirsty by offering pure, unadulterated truth
- Like "the shadow of a massive crag in a parched land," they bring relief to the flock by providing spiritual guidance and refreshment

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- Song 63 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Hezekiah's Faith Was Rewarded":** (10 min.)

  Isa 36:1, 4-10, 15, 18-20—The Assyrians taunted Jehovah and threatened his people (*ip-1* 386-388 ¶7-14)

  Isa 37:1, 2, 14-20—Hezekiah put his trust in Jehovah (*ip-1* 389-391 ¶15-17)

  Isa 37:33-38—Jehovah acted in defense of his people (*ip-1* 391-394 ¶18-22)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Isa 35:8—What was "the Way of Holiness," and who qualified to walk on it? (*w08* 5/15 26 ¶4; 27 ¶1)

  Isa 36:2, 3, 22—How did Shebna set a good example of one who accepted discipline? (*w07* 1/15 8 ¶6)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Isa 36:1-12

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Mt 24:3, 7, 14—Teach the Truth—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) 2Ti 3:1-5—Teach the Truth—Leave a JW.ORG contact card.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 31-32 ¶11-12—Invite the person to the meeting.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 30
- ***"O Jehovah, . . . I Trust in You":*** (15 min.) Questions and answers. Begin by playing *"O Jehovah, . . . I Trust in You"—Excerpt* (video category OUR MEETINGS AND MINISTRY).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 7 ¶1-9
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 70 and Prayer

"O Jehovah, . . . I Trust in You"

It is important for us to trust in Jehovah both in good times and in bad. (Ps 25:1, 2) In the eighth century B.C.E., the Jews in Judah faced a crisis that tested their trust in God. What occurred provides many lessons for us. (Ro 15:4) After watching the video *"O Jehovah, . . . I Trust in You,"* how would you answer the following questions?

1. What crisis did Hezekiah face?

2. How did Hezekiah apply the principle found at Proverbs 22:3 when anticipating a possible siege?

3. Why did Hezekiah not consider surrendering to Assyria or making an alliance with Egypt?

4. How is Hezekiah a good example for Christians?

5. What situations today test *our* trust in Jehovah?

I WANT TO SHOW MORE TRUST IN JEHOVAH WHEN . . .

ISAIAH 34-37 | Hezekiah's Faith Was Rewarded

King Sennacherib of Assyria sent the Rabshakeh to Jerusalem to demand the city's surrender. The Assyrians used various arguments in an attempt to make the Jews give up without a fight.

1. **Isolation.** Egypt will be of little help to you.—Isa 36:6
2. **Doubt.** Jehovah will not fight for you because he is displeased with you.—Isa 36:7, 10
3. **Intimidation.** You do not stand a chance against the powerful Assyrian army.—Isa 36:8, 9
4. **Temptation.** Surrendering to Assyria will improve the quality of your life.—Isa 36:16, 17

37:1, 2, 14-20, 36

Hezekiah showed unwavering faith in Jehovah

- He did what he reasonably could to prepare the city for the siege
- He prayed to Jehovah for deliverance and encouraged the people to do the same
- His faith was rewarded when Jehovah sent an angel to strike down 185,000 Assyrian warriors in one night

- Song 114 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Gives Power to the Tired One":** (10 min.)

  Isa 40:25, 26—Jehovah is the Source of all dynamic energy (*ip-1* 409-410 ¶23-25)

  Isa 40:27, 28—Jehovah notices the hardships we endure and the injustices we suffer (*ip-1* 413 ¶27)

  Isa 40:29-31—Jehovah gives power to those trusting in him (*ip-1* 413-415 ¶29-31)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Isa 38:17—In what sense does Jehovah throw our sins behind his back? (*w03* 7/1 17 ¶17)

  Isa 42:3—How was this prophecy fulfilled in Jesus? (*w15* 2/15 8 ¶13)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Isa 40:6-17

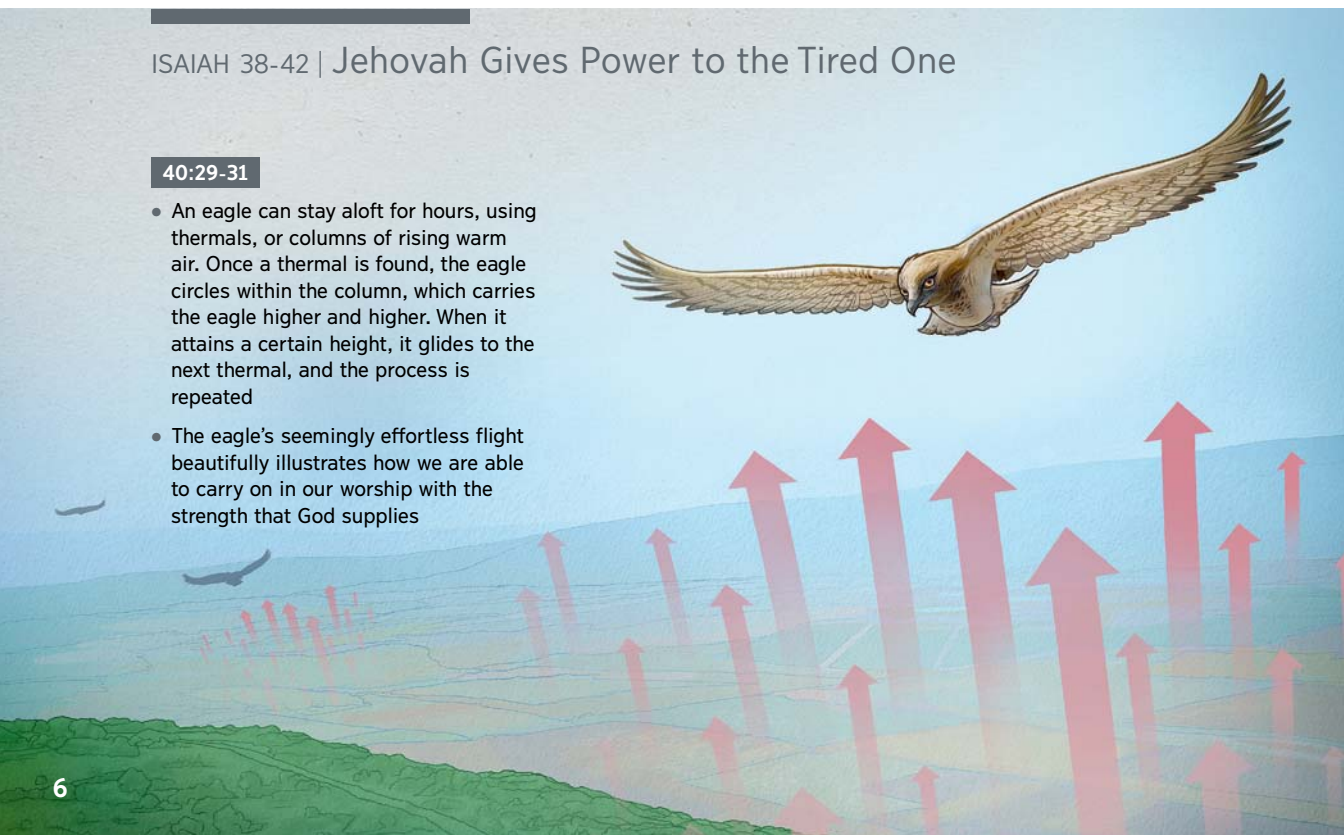
APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *lc*—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *lc*—Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *lv* 38-39 ¶6-7 —Demonstrate how to reach the heart.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 44
- **"Remember to Pray for Persecuted Christians":** (15 min.) Discussion. Begin by playing the video *Retrial of Jehovah's Witnesses in Taganrog—When Will the Injustice End?* (video category ORGANIZATION)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 7 ¶10-18, boxes on p. 73
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 10 and Prayer

ISAIAH 38-42 | Jehovah Gives Power to the Tired One



40:29-31

- An eagle can stay aloft for hours, using thermals, or columns of rising warm air. Once a thermal is found, the eagle circles within the column, which carries the eagle higher and higher. When it attains a certain height, it glides to the next thermal, and the process is repeated
- The eagle's seemingly effortless flight beautifully illustrates how we are able to carry on in our worship with the strength that God supplies

- Song 55 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Is the God of True Prophecy":** (10 min.)
  Isa 44:26-28—Jehovah prophesied that Jerusalem and the temple would be rebuilt, and he named Cyrus as the conqueror of Babylon (*ip-2* 71-72 ¶22-23)
  Isa 45:1, 2—Jehovah gave details about the conquest of Babylon (*ip-2* 77-78 ¶4-6)
  Isa 45:3-6—Jehovah gave reasons why he used Cyrus to conquer Babylon (*ip-2* 79-80 ¶8-10)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Isa 43:10-12—In what way were the Israelites to be a nation of witnesses for Jehovah? (*w14* 11/15 21-22 ¶14-16)
  Isa 43:25—What is the main reason why Jehovah wipes out transgressions? (*ip-2* 60 ¶24)
  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?
  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?
- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Isa 46:1-13

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *lc*—Witness informally to a workmate or schoolmate.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *lc*—Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *jl* lesson 4

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

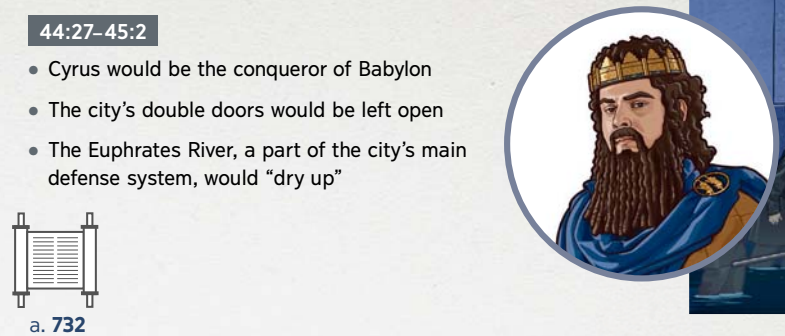
- Song 77
- ***How Can We Be Sure the Bible Is True?:*** (15 min.) Play the video (video category OUR MEETINGS AND MINISTRY). Then discuss the following questions: How can we use this video when witnessing informally, publicly, and from house to house? What good experiences have you had with this video?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 7 ¶19-23, box on p. 75, chart on pp. 76-77, review box on p. 77
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 83 and Prayer

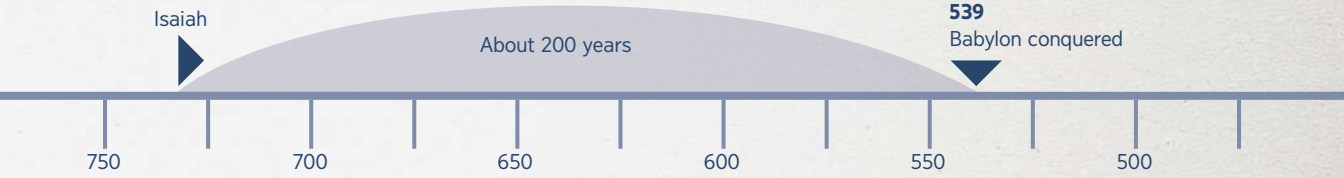
ISAIAH 43-46 | Jehovah Is the God of True Prophecy

About 200 years before the conquest of Babylon, Jehovah through Isaiah gave a detailed prophecy describing what would happen.

44:27–45:2

- Cyrus would be the conqueror of Babylon
- The city's double doors would be left open
- The Euphrates River, a part of the city's main defense system, would "dry up"





All dates B.C.E.

Remember to Pray for Persecuted Christians

The Bible prophesied that Satan would persecute us in an attempt to hinder our ministry. (Joh 15:20; Re 12:17) How can we help fellow Christians who are suffering persecution in other lands? We can pray for them. “A righteous man’s supplication has a powerful effect.”—Jas 5:16.

What can we pray for? We can ask Jehovah to give our brothers and sisters courage and to help them not to be afraid. (Isa 41:10-13) We can also pray for the authorities to be favorably disposed toward the preaching work, “so that we may go on leading a calm and quiet life.”—1Ti 2:1, 2.

When Paul and Peter were persecuted, the first-century Christians prayed for them by name. (Ac 12:5; Ro 15:30, 31) Even if we do not know the names of all those being persecuted today, could we mention their congregation, country, or region?

I want to pray for persecuted Christians in these lands:

- The latest information on the persecution of Jehovah’s Witnesses can be found on jw.org. (Look under NEWSROOM > LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS.)
- The jw.org article “Jehovah’s Witnesses Imprisoned for Their Faith—By Location” lists the number of those currently imprisoned in each country. (Look under NEWSROOM > LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS. Click on a country to learn more details and to access a PDF that provides the names of those imprisoned there.)

Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

AWAKE!

Question: Reports of teen depression seem to be increasing at an alarming rate. What do you think can be done about the problem?

Offer: This magazine offers some suggestions on how teens can deal with depression and how their parents can help.

TEACH THE TRUTH

Question: What makes for a happy marriage?

Scripture: **Eph 5:33**

Truth: Marriages flourish when they are built on love and respect.

THE ORIGIN OF LIFE—FIVE QUESTIONS WORTH ASKING (If)

Question: When it comes to important questions such as how life began, what would you say we should base our belief on?

Scripture: **Heb 11:1, ftn.**

Offer: As the footnote in that verse indicates, we're wise to base our beliefs on "convincing evidence." This brochure considers five key questions about the origin of life and what reliable evidence reveals.

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

A young sister presenting an essay to her class

- Song 89 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Obedience to Jehovah Leads to Blessings":** (10 min.)

  Isa 48:17—True worship is based on obedience to divine instruction (*ip-2* 131 ¶18)

  Isa 48:18—Jehovah loves us and wants us to enjoy life (*ip-2* 131 ¶19)

  Isa 48:19—Obedience leads to eternal blessings (*ip-2* 132 ¶20-21)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Isa 49:6—How is the Messiah "a light of nations," even though his earthly ministry was limited to the Israelites? (*w07* 1/15 9 ¶8)

  Isa 50:1—Why did Jehovah ask the Israelites: "Where is the divorce certificate of your mother?" (*it-1* 643 ¶4-5)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Isa 51:12-23

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion based on "Sample Presentations." Play each presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. During February, publishers may offer either *Was Life Created?* or *The Origin of Life—Five Questions Worth Asking,* depending on the response of the householder. (See the box *"The Origin of Life—Five Questions Worth Asking."*)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 135
- **Local Needs:** (7 min.) As an option, discuss the lessons learned from the *Yearbook*. (*yb16* 144-145)
- ***Become Jehovah's Friend—Obey Jehovah:*** (8 min.) Discussion. Start by playing the video *Become Jehovah's Friend—Obey Jehovah* (video category CHILDREN). Then consider the following questions: What is the most important reason why we should obey Jehovah? (Pr 27:11) What are some ways that children must obey Jehovah? What are some ways that adults must obey Jehovah?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 8 ¶1-7, box on p. 79
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 68 and Prayer

ISAIAH 47-51 | Obedience to Jehovah Leads to Blessings

48:17

- Jehovah lovingly shows us 'the way we should walk' in order to enjoy life. We benefit ourselves by obeying him

48:18

"Peace . . . like a river"

- Jehovah promises peace that is as abundant and ongoing as a river

"Righteousness like the waves of the sea"

- Our deeds of righteousness can be as innumerable as the waves of the sea

- Song 20 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Christ Suffered for Us":** (10 min.)

  Isa 53:3-5—He was despised, and he was crushed for our errors (*w09* 1/15 26 ¶3-5)

  Isa 53:7, 8—He willingly sacrificed his life for us (*w09* 1/15 27 ¶10)

  Isa 53:11, 12—We can have a righteous standing because he remained faithful until death (*w09* 1/15 28 ¶13)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Isa 54:1—Who is the "barren woman" mentioned in this prophecy, and who are her "sons"? (*w06* 3/15 11 ¶2)

  Isa 57:15—In what sense does Jehovah "reside" with those who are "crushed" and "lowly"? (*w05* 10/15 26 ¶3)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Isa 57:1-11

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *lf*—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *lf* 30-31—Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 14-15 ¶16-17—If available, have a father study with his minor son or daughter.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 5
- **"Help Your Children to Develop Unshakable Faith in the Creator":** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *What Your Peers Say—Belief in God* (video category TEENAGERS).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 8 ¶8-13, chart on p. 83
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 24 and Prayer

ISAIAH 52-57 | Christ Suffered for Us

53:3-5

"He was despised and was avoided by men . . . We considered him as plagued, stricken by God and afflicted"

- Jesus was despised and charged with blasphemy. Some believed that God was punishing him, as if plaguing him with a loathsome disease

53:10

"It was Jehovah's will to crush him, . . . and through him the delight of Jehovah will have success"

- Jehovah no doubt suffered when he saw his Son put to death. But he delighted to see Jesus' absolute faithfulness. Jesus' death provided an answer to Satan's challenge regarding the loyalty of God's servants and brought benefits to repentant humans. It thus helped to accomplish "Jehovah's will"

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- Song 57 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Proclaim the Year of Jehovah's Goodwill":** (10 min.)

  Isa 61:1, 2—Jesus was anointed "to proclaim the year of Jehovah's goodwill" (*ip-2* 322 ¶4)

  Isa 61:3, 4—Jehovah provides "big trees of righteousness" to support his work (*ip-2* 326-327 ¶13-15)

  Isa 61:5, 6—"Foreigners" cooperate with "the priests of Jehovah" in the greatest witnessing campaign of all time (*w12* 12/15 25 ¶5-6)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Isa 60:17—What are some ways that Jehovah has fulfilled this promise in the last days? (*w15* 7/15 9-10 ¶14-17)

  Isa 61:8, 9—What is the "everlasting covenant," and who are the "offspring"? (*w07* 1/15 11 ¶5)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Isa 62:1-12

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *g17.1* cover
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *g17.1* cover
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 16 ¶19—If available, have a mother study with her minor daughter.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 66
- **Use Videos in Your Ministry:** (6 min.) Talk. Play the video *What Is God's Kingdom?* (video category OUR MEETINGS AND MINISTRY) Encourage all to use the video in connection with the literature offer for March and April on an initial call or on a return visit.
- **"Make Wise Use of Bible Literature":** (9 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Distributing Bible Literature in Congo* (video category ACTIVITIES).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 8 ¶14-18, box on p. 85, review box on p. 86
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 96 and Prayer

Make Wise Use of Bible Literature

Jesus taught: "You received free, give free." (Mt 10:8) We adhere to that clear direction by not charging people for a copy of the Bible or our Bible-based literature. (2Co 2:17) Nevertheless, these publications contain precious truths from God's Word. Great effort and expense are involved in printing literature and shipping it to congregations around the world. Therefore, we should take only what we need.

Use discernment when giving literature to others, even at public witnessing locations. (Mt 7:6) Instead of simply handing out literature to passersby, make an effort to converse with them to determine their interest. Can you answer yes to at least one of the questions in the accompanying box? If you are unable to determine someone's interest, it is best to give him a tract. Of course, if he asks for a magazine or another publication, we will gladly give him a copy.—Pr 3:27, 28.

DOES THE PERSON . . .

- listen attentively when we speak?
- participate in the conversation?
- agree to read the literature?
- offer a contribution?
- respond appreciatively to what he hears from God's Word?

ISAIAH 58-62 | “Proclaim the Year of Jehovah’s Goodwill”

61:1, 2

“The year of Jehovah’s goodwill” is not a literal year

- It is a time period during which Jehovah gives meek ones the opportunity to respond to his proclamation of freedom
- In the first century, the year of goodwill started when Jesus began his ministry in 29 C.E. and lasted until “the day of vengeance” of Jehovah when Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 C.E.
- In our day, the year of goodwill began with Jesus’ enthronement in heaven in 1914 and will conclude with the great tribulation

61:3, 4

Jehovah blesses his people with “big trees of righteousness”

- The tallest trees in the world usually grow together in forests, where individual trees support one another
- Large root systems may be intertwined, anchoring the trees and providing resistance to storms
- Tall trees provide protective shade for saplings, and leaves that fall from the trees enrich the soil beneath

All members of the worldwide Christian congregation benefit from the support and protection of the “big trees of righteousness,” the anointed remnant

- Song 145 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"New Heavens and a New Earth Will Cause Great Rejoicing":** (10 min.)

  Isa 65:17—"The former things will not be called to mind" (*ip-2* 383 ¶23)

  Isa 65:18, 19—There will be great rejoicing (*ip-2* 384 ¶25)

  Isa 65:21-23—Life will be satisfying, and people will feel secure (*w12* 9/15 9 ¶4-5)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Isa 63:5—How does God's wrath support him? (*w07* 1/15 11 ¶6)

  Isa 64:8—How does Jehovah exercise his authority as our Potter? (*w13* 6/15 25 ¶3-5)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Isa 63:1-10

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Eph 5:33—Teach the Truth.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) 1Ti 5:8; Tit 2:4, 5—Teach the Truth.
- **Talk:** (6 min. or less) Isa 66:23; *w06* 11/1 30-31 ¶14-17—Theme: Meeting Together—A Permanent Feature of Our Worship

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 142
- **"Rejoice in Your Hope" (Isa 65:17, 18; Ro 12:12):** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Rejoice in the Hope* (video category THE BIBLE).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 9 ¶1-9, chart on p. 89
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 80 and Prayer

Rejoice in Your Hope

Hope is like an anchor. (Heb 6:19) It helps us to avoid spiritual shipwreck when we face stormy seas. (1Ti 1:18, 19) Stormy seas may include personal disappointments, material loss, prolonged illness, the death of a loved one, or any other threat to our integrity.

Faith and hope enable us to see clearly the promised reward. (2Co 4:16-18; Heb 11:13, 26, 27) So whether our hope is heavenly or earthly, we must regularly nourish it by meditating on the promises recorded in God's Word. Then, when we are distressed by trials, it will be easier to maintain our joy. —1Pe 1:6, 7.

WATCH THE VIDEO *REJOICE IN THE HOPE,* AND THEN ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- Why is Moses a good example to imitate?

- What responsibility rests on family heads?

- What subjects might you consider for Family Worship projects?

- How can hope help you to face trials with confidence?

- What do you look forward to?

ISAIAH 63-66 | New Heavens and a New Earth Will Cause Great Rejoicing

God's promise of restoration recorded in Isaiah chapter 65 is so certain that Jehovah speaks of it as if it were already being fulfilled.

65:17

Jehovah creates new heavens and a new earth, where the former things are not called to mind

What are the new heavens?

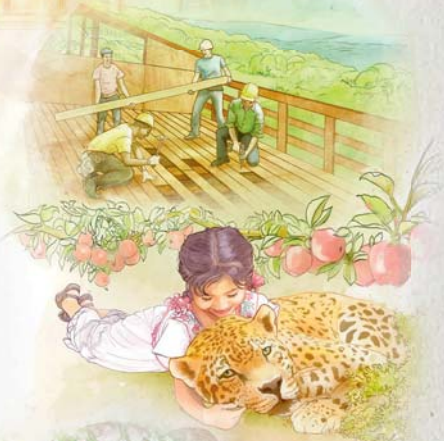
- A new government that will bring about righteous conditions on earth
- It was established in 1914 when Christ was enthroned as King of God's Kingdom

What is the new earth?

- A society of people from all nationalities, languages, and races who gladly submit to the rulership of the new heavenly government

How will the former things not be called to mind?

- The causes of hurtful memories—physical, mental, and emotional suffering—will no longer exist
- Faithful humans will enjoy life to the full and will treasure the pleasant memories of each passing day



Help Your Children to Develop Unshakable Faith in the Creator

Creation declares Jehovah's glory. (Ps 19:1-4; 139:14) However, the Devil's world promotes God-dishonoring theories about the origin of life. (Ro 1:18-25) How can you prevent such ideas from taking root in the mind and heart of your children? Help them from an early age to develop faith that Jehovah exists and cares about them personally. (2Co 10:4, 5; Eph 6:16) Draw out their deepest thoughts about what they are taught at school, and use the many tools available to reach their heart.—Pr 20:5; Jas 1:19.

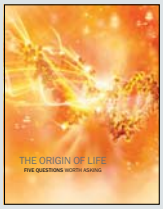
WATCH THE VIDEO *WHAT YOUR PEERS SAY—BELIEF IN GOD,* AND THEN CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- What is a common myth about belief in God?

- What is taught in your school?

- What convinces you that Jehovah exists?

- How might you help someone to reason that God created all things?



The Origin of Life—Five Questions Worth Asking

This brochure was designed particularly to help Witness youths who are taught evolution in school. It may also be given to those who want an in-depth discussion about evidence of a Creator.

ADDITIONAL TOOLS AVAILABLE:

- **JW.ORG series** "My Bible Lessons" (Ages 3 and under)
- **Video** *Become Jehovah's Friend —"Jehovah . . . Created All Things"*
- ***Awake!* series** "Was It Designed?"
- **JW.ORG worksheet** "Why Do I Believe in God?"
- **JW.ORG series** "Creation or Evolution?" (four parts)
- **JW Broadcasting video series** "Viewpoints on the Origin of Life"
- **Video** *The Wonders of Creation Reveal God's Glory*
- **Brochure** *Was Life Created?*
- **Book** *Is There a Creator Who Cares About You?*

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Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

THE WATCHTOWER

Question: In your opinion, what is the greatest gift that God has ever given us?

Scripture: **Joh 3:16**

Offer: This issue of *The Watchtower* highlights why God sent Jesus to earth to die for us and how we can show appreciation for that gift.

WHAT IS THE KINGDOM OF GOD?

Question: [Show the front of the tract.] How would you answer this question? Is the Kingdom of God something within your heart? a figure of speech? or a government in heaven?

Scripture: **Da 2:44; Isa 9:6, ftn.**

Offer: This tract explains what God's Kingdom can mean for you.

MEMORIAL INVITATION

Offer: We're inviting people to a very important event. [Offer the invitation.] On April 11, millions around the world will gather to remember the death of Jesus and to hear a free Bible talk about how his death can benefit us. This invitation shows the time and location of the meeting being held in our area. We hope you can join us.

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

- Song 7 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"I Am With You to Save You":** (10 min.)

  [Play the video *Introduction to Jeremiah*.]

  Jer 1:6—Jeremiah was reluctant to accept a new assignment (*w11* 3/15 29 ¶4)

  Jer 1:7-10, 17-19—Jehovah promised to strengthen and help Jeremiah (*w05* 12/15 23 ¶18; *jr* 88 ¶14-15)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Jer 2:13, 18—What two bad things did the unfaithful Israelites do? (*w07* 3/15 9 ¶8)

  Jer 4:10—In what sense had Jehovah "deceived" his people? (*w07* 3/15 9 ¶4)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Jer 4:1-10

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

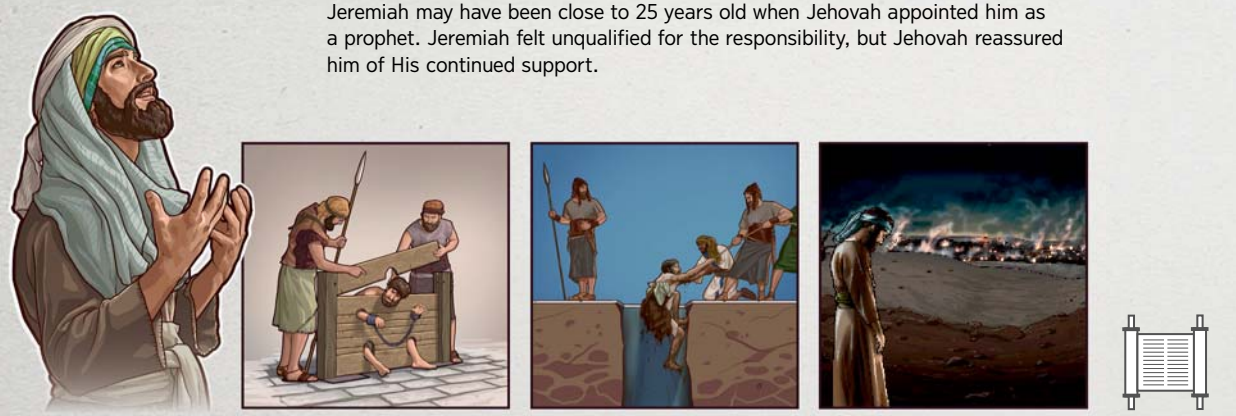
- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion based on "Sample Presentations." Play each presentation video, and then discuss the highlights.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 18
- **Organizational Accomplishments:** (7 min.) Play the *Organizational Accomplishments* video for March.
- **Memorial Campaign to Begin March 18:** (8 min.) Talk by the service overseer based on the February 2016 *Life and Ministry Meeting Workbook*, page 8. Distribute a copy of the Memorial invitation to all in the audience, and review its contents. Outline local arrangements for covering the territory.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 9 ¶10-15, chart on p. 90, boxes on pp. 93, 96-97
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 110 and Prayer

JEREMIAH 1-4 | "I Am With You to Save You"

Jeremiah may have been close to 25 years old when Jehovah appointed him as a prophet. Jeremiah felt unqualified for the responsibility, but Jehovah reassured him of His continued support.



All dates B.C.E.

- Song 37 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"They Stopped Doing God's Will":** (10 min.)

  Jer 6:13-15—Jeremiah exposed the nation's sins (*w88* 4/1 11-12 ¶7-8)

  Jer 7:1-7—Jehovah tried to move them to repentance (*w88* 4/1 12 ¶9-10)

  Jer 7:8-15—Israel believed that Jehovah would not take action (*jr* 21 ¶12)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Jer 6:16—What was Jehovah urging his people to do? (*w05* 11/1 23 ¶11)

  Jer 6:22, 23—Why could it be said that a people would be "coming from the land of the north"? (*w88* 4/1 13 ¶15)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Jer 5:26–6:5

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *T-36*—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *T-36*—Discuss "To Think About." Invite the person to the Memorial.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *jl* lesson 1—Invite the person to the Memorial.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 123
- ***"Who Are Doing Jehovah's Will Today?*—How to Use It":** (15 min.) Begin with a five-minute discussion of the article. Afterward, play and discuss the video that shows how lesson 8 of the brochure might be considered with a Bible student. Encourage everyone who conducts a Bible study to use the brochure each week.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 9 ¶16-21, box on p. 94, review box on p. 95
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 75 and Prayer

JEREMIAH 5-7 | They Stopped Doing God's Will

Jeremiah in the gate of the house of Jehovah

7:1-4, 8-10, 15

- Jeremiah boldly exposed the Israelites' sins and hypocrisy
- The Israelites considered the temple to be a talisman that would protect them
- Jehovah let it be known that ritualistic sacrifices did not make up for wrong conduct

Consider: How can I make sure that my worship is in harmony with Jehovah's will and does not become formalistic?

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- Song 86 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Humans Can Have Success Only With Jehovah's Guidance":** (10 min.)

  Jer 10:2-5, 14, 15—The gods of the nations are false gods (*it*-1 555)

  Jer 10:6, 7, 10-13—Unlike the gods of the nations, Jehovah is the only true God (*w04* 10/1 11 ¶10)

  Jer 10:21-23—Humans cannot have success without Jehovah's guidance (*w15* 9/1 15 ¶1)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Jer 9:24—What type of boasting and pride are good? (*w13* 1/15 20 ¶16)

  Jer 11:10—Why did Jeremiah include the northern ten-tribe kingdom in his pronouncements, even though Samaria had fallen in 740 B.C.E.? (*w07* 3/15 9 ¶2)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Jer 11:6-16

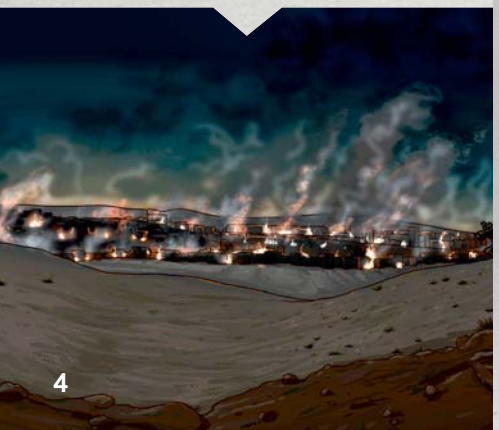
APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Memorial invitation and *wp17.2* cover—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Memorial invitation and *wp17.2* cover—Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *ld* pp. 4-5 (Student may select which pictures to consider.)—Invite the person to the Memorial.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 72
- ***"Listen to God*—How to Use It":** (15 min.) Begin with a five-minute discussion of the article. Afterward, play and discuss the video that shows a portion of a Bible study being conducted using pages 8 and 9 of the brochure. The student is using *Listen to God* while the teacher is using *Listen to God and Live Forever.* Encourage the audience to follow along in their copy of *Listen to God and Live Forever.*
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* pp. 98-99, chap. 10 ¶1-7
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 115 and Prayer

JEREMIAH 8-11 | Humans Can Have Success Only With Jehovah's Guidance



10:21-23

Humans have neither the ability nor the right to govern themselves

◀ Because Israel's spiritual shepherds did not inquire of Jehovah, the people were scattered

▶ Those who followed Jehovah's direction had peace, happiness, and prosperity

Listen to God—How to Use It

The brochure *Listen to God* was designed to teach basic Bible truths visually to those who find it challenging to learn from text. Each two-page lesson features carefully prepared illustrations with arrows to guide the discussion from one illustration to the next.

The brochure *Listen to God and Live Forever* has the same illustrations as does *Listen to God,* but the former has more text and can be used by students who have some reading ability. Publishers often prefer to use it as a teacher's copy when their student is using *Listen to God*. Many of the pages contain a box with additional information that could be discussed, depending on the ability of the student.

You may offer either brochure at any time, even if it is not the offer for the month. When conducting a Bible study, use the illustrations to explain the Bible record. Ask questions to involve the student and to make sure he understands. Read and discuss the scriptures at the bottom of each page. After completing the brochure, study *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* or *What Can the Bible Teach Us?* to help your student progress to baptism.

Listen to God
Jehovah gave Adam and Eve many good things.
Genesis 1:28
8
God said not to eat from one of the trees.
Genesis 2:16, 17
9

- Song 128 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Israel Forgot Jehovah":** (10 min.)

  Jer 13:1-5—Jeremiah obeyed God's instructions to hide a linen belt, although it took great effort (*jr* 51 ¶17)

  Jer 13:6, 7—When Jeremiah made the long trek to retrieve the belt, he found that it was ruined (*jr* 52 ¶18)

  Jer 13:8-11—Jehovah was illustrating that the close relationship that he had with the Israelites would be ruined because of their stubbornness (*jr* 52 ¶19-20; *it*-1 1121 ¶2)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Jer 12:1, 2, 14—What was Jeremiah's question, and what was Jehovah's answer? (*jr* 118 ¶11)

  Jer 15:17—What was Jeremiah's view of associations, and how can we imitate him? (*w04* 5/1 12 ¶16)

  What does this week's Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

  What points from this week's Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Jer 13:15-27

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Memorial invitation and video—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Memorial invitation and video—Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Talk:** (6 min.) *w16.03* 29-31—Theme: When Were God's People Held Captive by Babylon the Great?

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 79
- **"Help Your Family to Remember Jehovah":** (15 min.) Discussion. Start by playing the video *"These Words . . . Must Be on Your Heart"—Family Interviews* (video category FAMILY).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 10 ¶8-11, boxes on pp. 103, 105 (left)
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 48 and Prayer

Help Your Family to Remember Jehovah

Jeremiah was commissioned to warn the Jews of an impending destruction because they had forgotten their God, Jehovah. (Jer 13:25) How did the nation get to this sad spiritual state? Israelite families had lost their spirituality. Evidently family heads were not following Jehovah's direction recorded at Deuteronomy 6:5-7.

Spiritually strong families contribute to the stability of our congregations today. Family heads can help their family to remember Jehovah by means of a regular and meaningful Family Worship program. (Ps 22:27) After watching the video *"These Words . . . Must Be on Your Heart"—Family Interviews,* answer these questions:

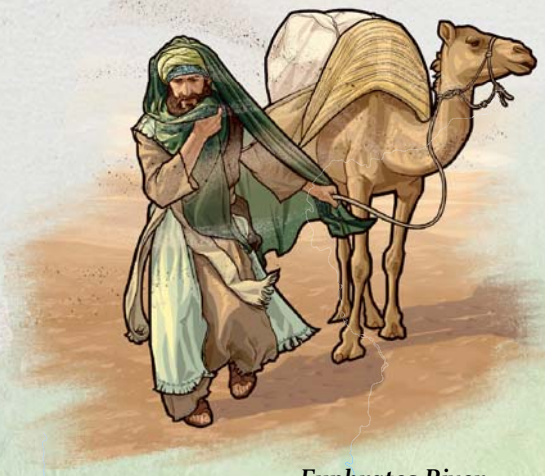
How have some families successfully confronted the common challenges to family worship?

What are some of the rewards of having a regular and meaningful Family Worship program?

When it comes to family worship, what challenges do I have, and how do I plan to address them?

JEREMIAH 12-16 | Israel Forgot Jehovah

Jeremiah was given a challenging assignment that would illustrate Jehovah's determination to bring to ruin the stubborn pride of Judah and Jerusalem.



13:1, 2

Jeremiah bought a linen belt

- The belt clinging to the waist symbolized the close relationship that was possible between Jehovah and the nation

13:3-5

Jeremiah took the belt to the Euphrates River

- He hid it in the cleft of a crag, and he then returned to Jerusalem

13:6, 7

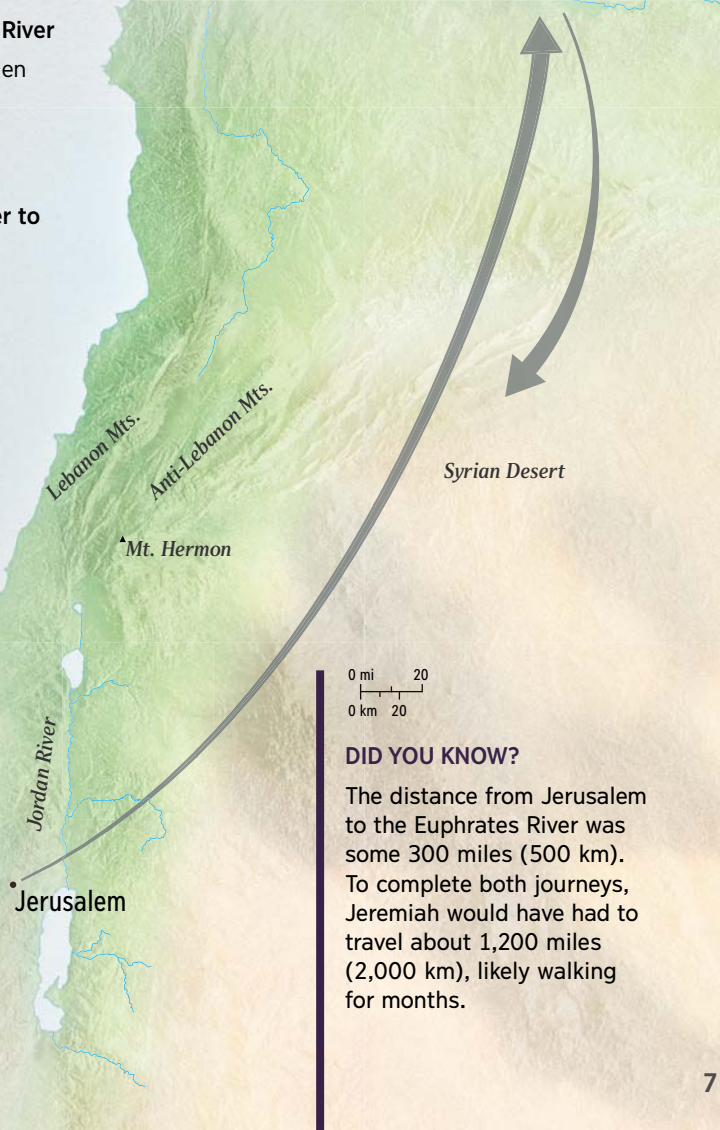
Jeremiah returned to the Euphrates River to retrieve the belt

- The belt was ruined

13:8-11

Jehovah explained the matter after Jeremiah carried out the assignment

- Jeremiah's heartfelt obedience in what may have seemed trivial played a role in Jehovah's efforts to reach the hearts of the people

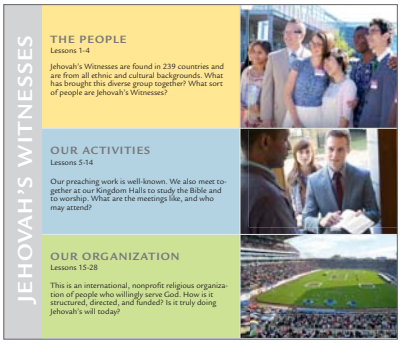


DID YOU KNOW?

The distance from Jerusalem to the Euphrates River was some 300 miles (500 km). To complete both journeys, Jeremiah would have had to travel about 1,200 miles (2,000 km), likely walking for months.

Who Are Doing Jehovah's Will Today?—How to Use It

The brochure *Who Are Doing Jehovah's Will Today?* was designed to be considered with Bible students at the beginning or at the end of each study session.* Lessons 1 to 4 familiarize students with us as a people, lessons 5 to 14 help them learn about our activities, and lessons 15 to 28 show them our organization in action. It is generally best to consider the lessons in order unless a particular one deals with something of immediate interest. Each lesson is only a page long and can be discussed with most students in from five to ten minutes.


JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
THE PEOPLE
Lessons 1-4
Jehovah's Witnesses are found in 239 countries and are from all ethnic and cultural backgrounds. What has brought this diverse group together? What sort of people are Jehovah's Witnesses?
OUR ACTIVITIES
Lessons 5-14
Our preaching work is well-known. We also meet together at our Kingdom Halls to study the Bible and to worship. What are the meetings like, and who may attend?
OUR ORGANIZATION
Lessons 15-28
This is an international, nonprofit religious organization of people who willingly serve God. How is it structured, directed, and funded? Is it truly doing Jehovah's will today?

8
Why Do We Dress Up for Our Meetings?
Have you noticed in the pictures in this brochure how well-dressed Jehovah's Witnesses are when attending their congregation meetings? Why do we pay such attention to our dress and grooming?
To show respect for our God. It is true that God looks beyond our outward appearance. (1 Samuel 16:7) However, when we gather to worship him, our heartfelt desire is to show respect both for him and for our fellow worshippers. If we were to stand before a judge in court, we would likely give attention to our appearance out of regard for his position. Likewise, the way we appear at meetings shows our esteem for "the Judge of all the earth," Jehovah God, and for the place where we worship him. —Genesis 18:25.
To reflect the values that we live by. The Bible encourages Christians to dress "with modesty and soundness of mind." (1 Timothy 2:9, 10) Dressing "with modesty" means avoiding clothing that might draw attention to us by being showy, provocative, or revealing. Also, having "soundness of mind" helps us to choose attractive clothing that is not sloppy or extreme. These principles still leave room for a great variety of personal choices. Without our saying a word, our attractive and tasteful appearance can "adorn the teaching of our Savior" and "glorify God." (Titus 2:10; 1 Peter 2:12) By dressing up for the meetings, we thus influence how others view the worship of Jehovah.
Do not let your clothing hold you back from attending the Kingdom Hall. Our clothes do not need to be expensive or fancy to be appropriate, clean, and presentable.
■ How important is the way we dress when we worship God?
■ What principles guide our choices in dress and grooming?
Iceland
Mexico
Guinea-Bissau
Philippines

- Call attention to the question that is the title of the lesson
- Read the lesson together, either straight through or in sections
- Discuss what you just read. Make use of the questions at the bottom of the page and the pictures. Read and discuss the cited scriptures as appropriate. Highlight that the bold subheadings answer the title question
- If there is a "Find Out More" box, read it together and encourage your student to follow through on the suggestion

* The online edition is the most up-to-date version of the brochure.

Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

AWAKE!

Question: Movies and TV shows today often feature supernatural characters—wizards, witches, and vampires. What do you think? Is it all just harmless fun, or are there hidden dangers?

Offer: This issue of *Awake!* discusses why people are fascinated by the supernatural as well as what is really behind it.

TEACH THE TRUTH

Question: How will the Kingdom of God solve this world's problems?

Scripture: **Mt 6:10**

Truth: The Kingdom of God will bring peace, harmony, and security to the earth—just as it has already done in heaven.

WHAT IS THE KINGDOM OF GOD?
(Return visit)

Question: [Highlight the follow-up question on the back of the tract.] What will life be like under the rule of God's Kingdom?

Scriptures: **Ps 37:29; Isa 65:21-23**

Offer: [Show the *Good News* brochure.] Lesson 7 of this brochure discusses what these promises can mean for you and me. [Start a Bible study using the brochure.]

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

- Song 88 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Let Jehovah Mold Your Thinking and Conduct":** (10 min.)

  Jer 18:1-4—A potter has authority over the clay (*w99* 4/1 22 ¶3)

  Jer 18:5-10—Jehovah has authority over mankind (*it-2* 776 ¶4)

  Jer 18:11—Respond favorably to Jehovah's molding (*w99* 4/1 22 ¶4-5)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Jer 17:9—How may the heart's treachery become manifest? (*w01* 10/15 25 ¶13)

  Jer 20:7—In what way did Jehovah use his strength against Jeremiah and fool him? (*w07* 3/15 9 ¶6)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Jer 21:3-14

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion based on "Sample Presentations." Play each presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Encourage all to make return visits on those who accepted the tract *What Is the Kingdom of God?*

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 85
- **Local Needs:** (5 min.) As an option, discuss the lessons learned from the *Yearbook*. (*yb16* 22)
- **"Warmly Welcome Them":** (10 min.) Begin with a three-minute talk. Conclude by playing the video *Steve Gerdes: We Will Never Forget the Greeting* (video category INTERVIEWS AND EXPERIENCES).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 10 ¶12-19, box on p. 105 (right), review box on p. 107
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 13 and Prayer

Warmly Welcome Them

Warmly welcome whom? *Anyone* who attends our Christian meetings—from newcomers to longtime friends. (Ro 15:7; Heb 13:2) It could be a fellow believer visiting from another country or an inactive Christian attending for the first time in years. Imagine how you would feel in such circumstances. Would you not appreciate a warm greeting? (Mt 7:12) So why not make a greater effort to move about the Kingdom Hall and greet others before and after the meeting? This contributes to a warm and loving atmosphere and brings honor to Jehovah. (Mt 5:16) Of course, it will likely not be possible to speak personally with everyone present. Nevertheless, everyone will feel welcome if we all do our part.*

True hospitality is shown not just on special occasions like the Memorial but at all times. When newcomers see and experience Christian love in action, they may be moved to praise God and join us in pure worship.—Joh 13:35.

* Bible principles limit our dealings with disfellowshipped or disassociated ones who may attend meetings.—1Co 5:11; 2Jo 10.

SUGGESTIONS TO HELP NEWCOMERS

- Introduce yourself and ask for their name
- Invite them to sit with you
- Share your Bible and songbook with them
- After the meeting, make yourself available to answer questions
- Offer a Bible study when appropriate

JEREMIAH 17-21 | Let Jehovah Mold Your Thinking and Conduct

18:1-11

Respond favorably to Jehovah's molding

- Jehovah shapes our spiritual qualities through counsel or discipline
- We need to be malleable and obedient
- Jehovah never forces us to do things against our will

A potter may change his mind about what to do with a vessel

- Because Jehovah has given us free will, we can choose either to accept his molding or to reject it
- Jehovah adjusts his dealings with people according to the way they respond to his direction

DID YOU KNOW?

Clay was a common material in Bible times. When moist, clay is soft and pliable, and it will maintain the impressions made on it. But clay, even when baked hard, is not a strong material.

In what ways do I need Jehovah to mold me?

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_____

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- Song 36 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Do You Have 'a Heart to Know' Jehovah?":** (10 min.)
  Jer 24:1-3—Jehovah compared people to figs (*w13* 3/15 8 ¶2)
  Jer 24:4-7—The good figs represented those who had a receptive, obedient heart (*w13* 3/15 8 ¶4)
  Jer 24:8-10—The bad figs represented those who had a rebellious, disobedient heart (*w13* 3/15 8 ¶3)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Jer 22:30—Why did this decree not annul Jesus' right to ascend the throne of David? (*w07* 3/15 10 ¶9)
  Jer 23:33—What is "the burden of Jehovah"? (*w07* 3/15 11 ¶1)
  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?
  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?
- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Jer 23:25-36

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *g17.2* cover—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *g17.2* cover—Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *lv* 5 ¶1-2—Show how to reach the heart.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 38
- **"You Can Encourage an Inactive Christian":** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Encourage the Inactive Ones* (video category THE BIBLE).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 11 ¶1-8
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 82 and Prayer

JEREMIAH 22-24 | Do You Have "a Heart to Know" Jehovah?

Jehovah compared people to figs

24:5

- Faithful ones among the Jewish exiles in Babylon were like good figs

24:8

- Unfaithful King Zedekiah and others who did what was bad were like bad figs

How can we develop "a heart to know" Jehovah?

24:7

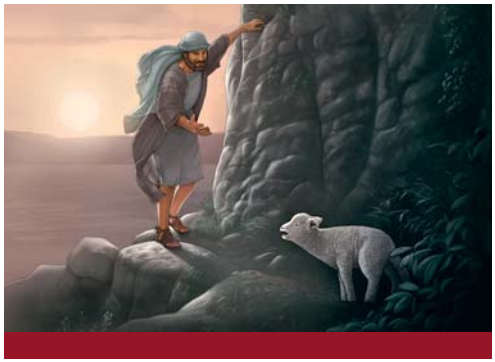
- Jehovah will give us "a heart to know" him if we study and apply his Word
- We must honestly inspect our heart and root out attitudes and desires that jeopardize our relationship with Jehovah

Consider: Do I have "a heart to know" Jehovah? How can I develop one?

You Can Encourage an Inactive Christian

On Tuesday, April 11, many inactive Christians will attend the Memorial. They started running the race for life but have slowed down for various reasons, some of which are addressed in the brochure *Return to Jehovah.* (Heb 12:1) Yet, inactive ones remain precious to Jehovah, who purchased them with the blood of his Son. (Ac 20:28; 1Pe 1:18, 19) How can we help them return to the congregation?

Congregation elders seek to find and help inactive Christians just as a shepherd diligently searches for sheep that have strayed from the flock. (Lu 15:4-7) This reflects Jehovah's loving care. (Jer 23:3, 4) All of us, not just the elders, can encourage such ones. Our efforts to show kindness and fellow feeling are pleasing to Jehovah and can be very rewarding. (Pr 19:17; Ac 20:35) Therefore, think about whom you can encourage, and do so without delay!



WATCH THE VIDEO *ENCOURAGE THE INACTIVE ONES,* AND THEN CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- What initiative did Abbey take when she met a Witness whom she did not know?

- Why should we approach the elders if we are thinking of helping someone who is inactive?

- How did Abbey prepare to visit Laura the second time?

- How did Abbey demonstrate persistence, patience, and love while trying to encourage Laura?

- What can we learn from Jesus' illustration found at Luke 15:8-10?

- What blessings came as a result of the combined efforts to help Laura?

- Song 73 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Be Courageous Like Jeremiah":** (10 min.)

  Jer 26:2-6—Jehovah instructed Jeremiah to proclaim a warning message (*w09* 12/1 24 ¶6)

  Jer 26:8, 9, 12, 13—Jeremiah did not let his opponents frighten him (*jr* 21 ¶13)

  Jer 26:16, 24—Jehovah protected his courageous prophet (*w09* 12/1 25 ¶1)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Jer 27:2, 3—Why might messengers from various nations have been in Jerusalem, and why did Jeremiah make yoke bars for them? (*jr* 27 ¶21)

  Jer 28:11—How did Jeremiah show common sense when Hananiah opposed him, and what can we learn from his example? (*jr* 187-188 ¶11-12)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Jer 27:12-22

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *T-36*—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *T-36*—Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *lv* 7 ¶4-5—Show how to reach the heart.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 61
- **"Kingdom Songs Inspire Courage":** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *A Song That Inspired Laborers* (video category INTERVIEWS AND EXPERIENCES).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 11 ¶9-21
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 31 and Prayer

Kingdom Songs Inspire Courage

Paul and Silas praised God with song while in prison. (Ac 16:25) In modern times, fellow believers sang Kingdom songs while in the Sachsenhausen concentration camp in Nazi Germany and while in exile in Siberia. These examples illustrate the power of songs to inspire courage in Christians who are facing trials.

Many additional languages will soon have the new songbook entitled *"Sing Out Joyfully" to Jehovah.* Once we obtain a copy, we can etch the lyrics in our mind by practicing the songs during family worship. (Eph 5:19) Then holy spirit will help us to recall them when trials arise. Kingdom songs can help us to focus on our hope. They can inspire us when we are facing trials. And when we are in good spirits, the uplifting lyrics enable us to "sing out joyfully" because of the good condition of our heart. (1Ch 15:16; Ps 33:1-3) Let us by all means make good use of our Kingdom songs!

WATCH THE VIDEO *A SONG THAT INSPIRED LABORERS,* AND THEN ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- What circumstances led Brother Frost to compose a song?

- How did the song inspire the brothers in the Sachsenhausen concentration camp?

- In what daily circumstances could Kingdom songs strengthen you?

- Which Kingdom songs would you like to memorize?

JEREMIAH 25-28 | Be Courageous Like Jeremiah

26:6

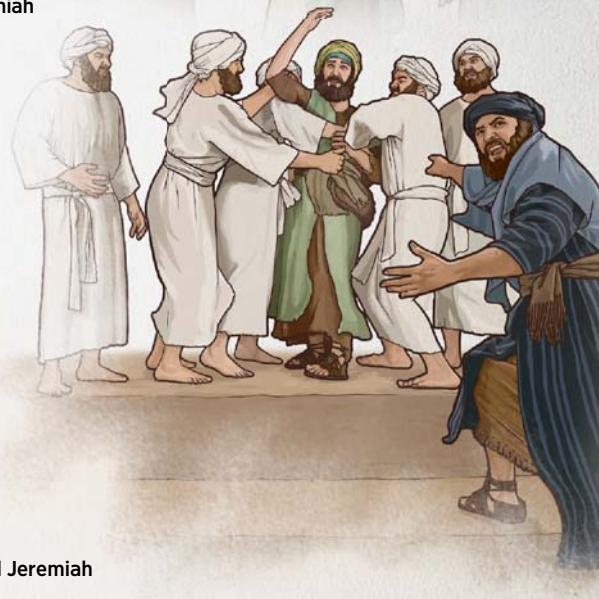
Jeremiah warned that Jerusalem would become devastated like Shiloh

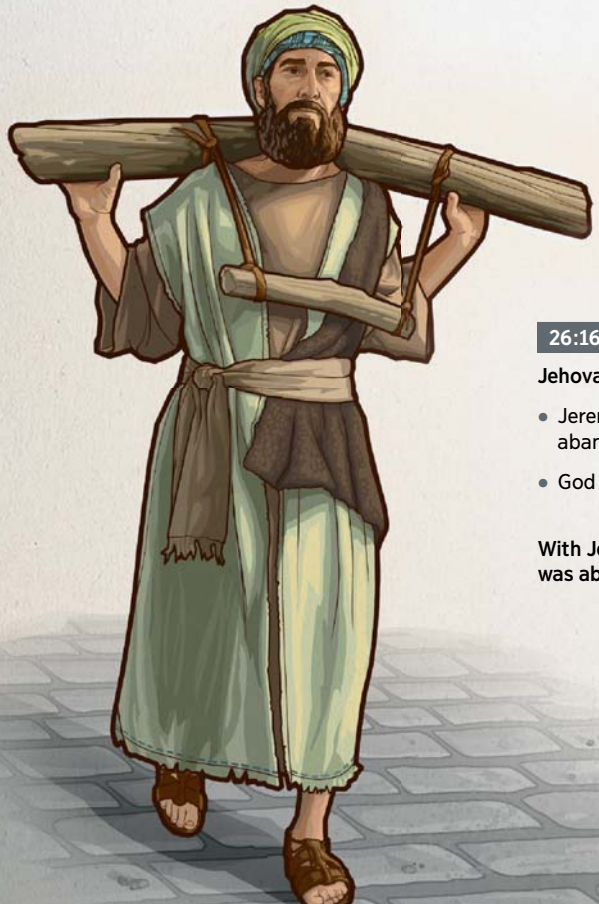
- The ark of the covenant, which represented Jehovah's presence, was once kept in Shiloh
- Jehovah allowed the Philistines to capture the Ark, and it was never returned to Shiloh

26:8, 9, 12, 13

The priests, the prophets, and all the people threatened to kill Jeremiah

- The people seized Jeremiah because of his prophesying against Jerusalem and the temple
- Jeremiah did not give up and run away





26:16, 24

Jehovah protected Jeremiah

- Jeremiah maintained his courage, and Jehovah did not abandon him
- God moved courageous Ahikam to protect Jeremiah

With Jehovah's backing and encouragement, Jeremiah was able to declare an unpopular message for 40 years

- Song 27 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Foretold the New Covenant":** (10 min.)

  Jer 31:31—The new covenant was foretold centuries in advance (*it*-1 524 ¶3-4)

  Jer 31:32, 33—The new covenant is different from the Law covenant (*jr* 173-174 ¶11-12)

  Jer 31:34—The new covenant makes possible complete forgiveness of sins (*jr* 177 ¶18)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Jer 29:4, 7—Why were Jewish exiles commanded to "seek the peace" of Babylon, and how can we apply the principle? (*w96* 5/1 11 ¶5)

  Jer 29:10—How does this verse demonstrate the accuracy of Bible prophecy? (*g* 6/12 14 ¶1-2)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Jer 31:31-40

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

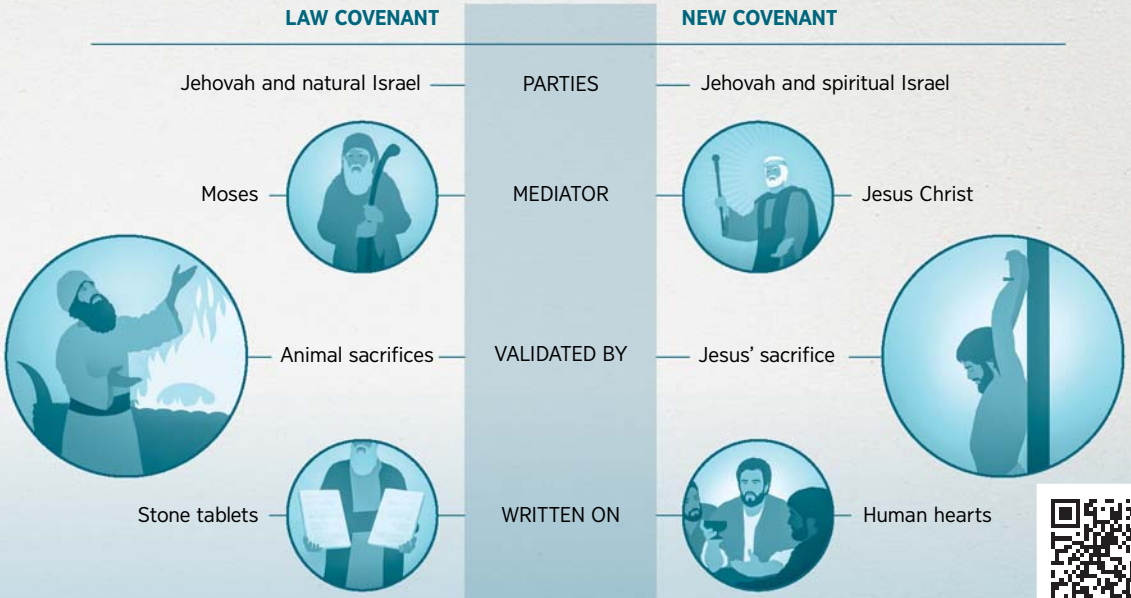
- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Mt 6:10—Teach the Truth.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Isa 9:6, 7; Re 16:14-16—Teach the Truth.
- **Talk:** (6 min. or less) *w14* 12/15 21—Theme: What Did Jeremiah Mean When He Spoke of Rachel's Weeping Over Her Sons?

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 129
- ***Convention Reminders:*** (15 min.) Talk. Review pertinent points from the April 2016 *Life and Ministry Meeting Workbook,* pages 6 and 8. Play the video *Convention Reminders* (video category OUR MEETINGS AND MINISTRY). Encourage parents to write their cell phone number on the back of the badge card of their young children. This will help attendants to contact the parents if a child gets lost. Generate enthusiasm for the 2017 regional convention.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 11 ¶22-28, review box on p. 117
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 89 and Prayer

JEREMIAH 29-31 | Jehovah Foretold the New Covenant

Jehovah foretold that the Law covenant would be replaced by a new covenant with everlasting benefits.



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Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

THE WATCHTOWER

Introduction: The ride of the four horsemen of the Apocalypse is one of the best-known scenes from the book of Revelation. Some are scared by it. Others are intrigued.

Scripture: **Re 1:3**

Offer: This issue of *The Watchtower* explains how the ride of the four horsemen can mean good news for us.

YOUR FAMILY CAN BE HAPPY

Introduction: We're showing this short video about the family. [Play the introduction video for *Your Family Can Be Happy*.]

Offer: If you would like to read the brochure mentioned in the video, I can give you a free copy or I can show you how to download it from the website.

TEACH THE TRUTH

Question: Do you think it's possible to know what the future holds?

Scripture: **Isa 46:10**

Truth: God reveals the future to us through his Word, the Bible.

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

- Song 2 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"A Sign That Israel Would Be Restored":** (10 min.)
  Jer 32:6-9, 15—Jehovah directed Jeremiah to buy a field as a sign that Jehovah would restore Israel (*it*-1 105 ¶2)
  Jer 32:10-12—Jeremiah followed all the proper legal procedures for the transaction (*w07* 3/15 11 ¶3)
  Jer 33:7, 8—Jehovah promised to "purify" the captives (*jr* 152 ¶22-23)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Jer 33:15—Who is the "sprout" for David? (*jr* 173 ¶10)
  Jer 33:23, 24—What "two families" are spoken of here? (*w07* 3/15 11 ¶4)
  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?
  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?
- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Jer 32:1-12

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion based on "Sample Presentations." Play each presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Encourage all to make good use of the introduction video when offering the brochure *Your Family Can Be Happy* (video category OUR MEETINGS AND MINISTRY).

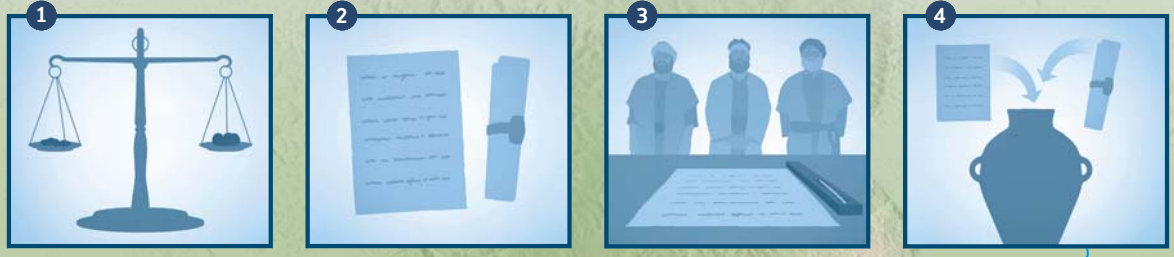
LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 42
- **Local Needs:** (15 min.) As an option, discuss the lessons learned from the *Yearbook*. (*yb16* 67-71)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 12 ¶1-8, box on p. 121
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 7 and Prayer

JEREMIAH 32-34 | A Sign That Israel Would Be Restored

32:9-14

Jeremiah took steps to purchase the land.



33:10, 11

Jehovah demonstrated goodness by promising that captives who responded to his discipline would be forgiven and would return to Israel.

How has Jehovah demonstrated goodness to you?

- Song 55 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Ebed-melech—An Example of Bravery and Kindness":** (10 min.)

  Jer 38:4-6—Zedekiah gave in to fear of man and allowed opposers to throw Jeremiah into a muddy cistern to die (*it*-2 1228 ¶3)

  Jer 38:7-10—Ebed-melech acted bravely and decisively to help Jeremiah (*w12* 5/1 31 ¶2-3)

  Jer 38:11-13—Ebed-melech demonstrated kindness (*w12* 5/1 31 ¶4)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Jer 35:19—Why were the Rechabites blessed? (*it*-2 759)

  Jer 37:21—How did Jehovah care for Jeremiah, and how can this encourage us when we experience adversity? (*w98* 1/15 18 ¶16-17; *w95* 8/1 5 ¶5-6)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Jer 36:27–37:2

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *wp17.3* cover—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *wp17.3* cover—Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *jl* lesson 26

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 92
- ***"Caring for Our Places of Worship":*** (15 min.) Questions and answers by an elder. After playing the video ***Caring for Our Places of Worship*** and considering the questions, briefly interview the congregation's representative on the operating committee. (If your congregation does not have a representative, interview the coordinator of the body of elders. If your congregation is the only one that meets in the Kingdom Hall, interview the maintenance coordinator.) What Kingdom Hall maintenance projects have been accomplished recently, and what is planned for the future? If someone has maintenance skills or would like to learn by assisting those with skills, what should he or she do? How can all of us, regardless of our circumstances, share in caring for the Kingdom Hall?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 12 ¶9-15, boxes on pp. 122-123, 130-131
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 123 and Prayer

JEREMIAH 35-38 | Ebed-melech—An Example of Bravery and Kindness

38:7-13

Ebed-melech, an officer in the court of King Zedekiah, showed godly qualities

- He acted bravely and decisively by approaching King Zedekiah in behalf of Jeremiah and then by rescuing Jeremiah from the cistern
- He showed kindness by providing soft rags and pieces of cloth to cushion Jeremiah's armpits against the ropes

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- Song 150 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Will Render to Each One According to His Works":** (10 min.)

  Jer 39:4-7—Zedekiah suffered the consequences of disobeying Jehovah (*it*-2 1228 ¶4)

  Jer 39:15-18—Jehovah showed appreciation to Ebed-melech for demonstrating trust in Him (*w12* 5/1 31 ¶5)

  Jer 40:1-6—Jehovah took care of his faithful servant Jeremiah (*it*-2 482)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Jer 42:1-3; 43:2, 4—What lessons can we learn from Johanan's mistake? (*w03* 5/1 10 ¶10)

  Jer 43:6, 7—What is the significance of the events described in these verses? (*it*-1 463 ¶4)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Jer 40:11–41:3

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Isa 46:10—Teach the Truth. Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Re 12:7-9, 12—Teach the Truth. Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 153 ¶19-20—Invite the person to the meeting.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 138
- ***"Jehovah Does Not Forget Your Love"* (Ps 71:18):** (15 min.) Discussion. Begin by playing the video *Jehovah Does Not Forget Your Love* (video category PROGRAMS AND EVENTS).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 12 ¶16-23, boxes on pp. 125, 128; review box on p. 129
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 103 and Prayer

Jehovah Does Not Forget Your Love

WATCH THE VIDEO *JEHOVAH DOES NOT FORGET YOUR LOVE,* AND THEN ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- What challenges come with advancing age?

- What good quality often accompanies old age?

- If you have grown old, how do Leviticus 19:32 and Proverbs 16:31 encourage you?

- How does Jehovah view his aged servants whose ministry is now limited?

- What does Jehovah want us to do even when we are older?

- How can older ones encourage younger ones?

- How did an older brother or sister encourage you recently?

JEREMIAH 39-43 | Jehovah Will Render to Each One According to His Works

39:4-7

Zedekiah disobeyed Jehovah's direction to surrender to Babylon

- Zedekiah's sons were slaughtered before his eyes. He then was blinded, bound with copper fetters, and imprisoned in Babylon until his death

39:15-18

Ebed-melech demonstrated trust in Jehovah and concern for His prophet Jeremiah

- Jehovah promised to safeguard Ebed-melech during Judah's destruction

40:1-6

Jeremiah preached boldly for many years before Jerusalem was destroyed

- Jehovah protected Jeremiah during Jerusalem's siege and arranged for him to be released by the Babylonians

- Song 35 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Stop 'Seeking Great Things for Yourself' ":** (10 min.)

  Jer 45:2, 3—Baruch's wrong thinking caused him distress (*jr* 104-105 ¶4-6)

  Jer 45:4, 5a—Jehovah kindly corrected Baruch (*jr* 103 ¶2)

  Jer 45:5b—Baruch preserved his life by focusing on what was most important (*w16.07* 8 ¶6)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Jer 48:13—Why would the Moabites "be ashamed of Chemosh"? (*it*-1 430)

  Jer 48:42—Why is Jehovah's pronouncement against Moab faith-strengthening? (*it*-2 422 ¶2)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Jer 47:1-7

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *hf*—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *hf*—Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *lv* 199 ¶9-10—Briefly show the student how to do research on a specific trial he is experiencing.

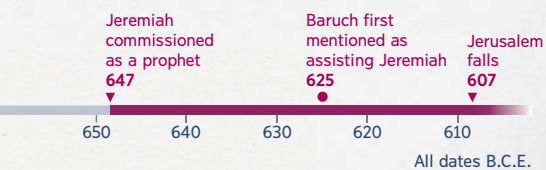
LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

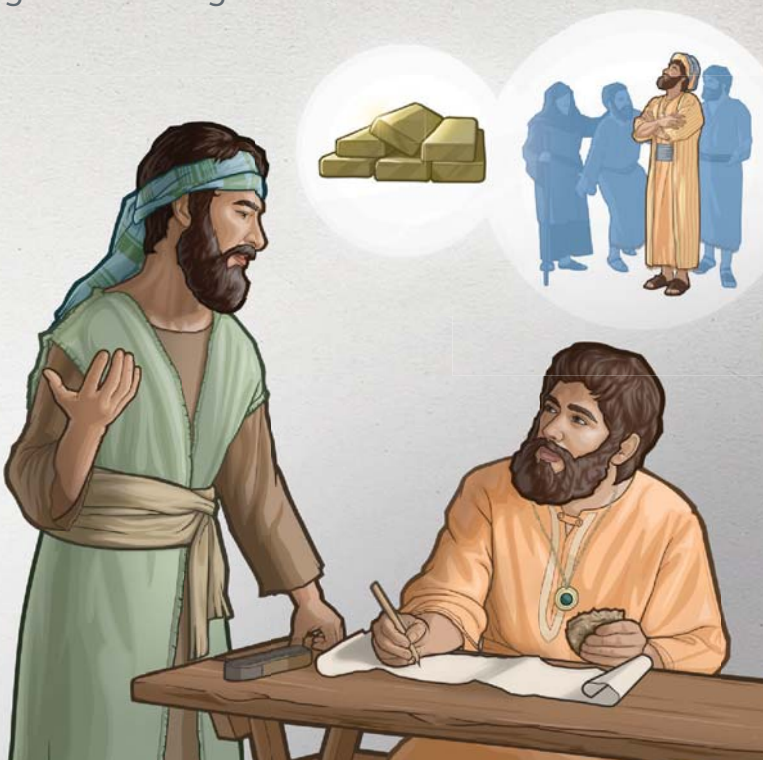
- Song 84
- **Young Ones—Do Not Seek Great Things for Yourselves:** (15 min.) Play and discuss the video *Young People Ask—What Will I Do With My Life?—Looking Back* (video category TEENAGERS).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* pp. 132-133, chap. 13 ¶1-10
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 61 and Prayer

JEREMIAH 44-48 | Stop "Seeking Great Things for Yourself"

45:2-5

Baruch was likely an educated official in the royal household. Although he worshipped Jehovah and faithfully assisted Jeremiah, he lost his balance at one point. He began "seeking great things," perhaps additional prominence in the royal court or material prosperity. He needed to adjust his thinking in order to survive the approaching destruction of Jerusalem.





- Song 74 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Blesses Humility and Punishes Arrogance":** (10 min.)

  Jer 50:4-7—A remnant of repentant, humbled Israelites would be released from captivity and would return to Zion

  Jer 50:29-32—Babylon would be destroyed for acting arrogantly against Jehovah (*it*-1 54)

  Jer 50:38, 39—Babylon would never again be inhabited (*jr* 161 ¶15; *w98* 4/1 20 ¶20)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Jer 49:1, 2—Why were the Ammonites rebuked by Jehovah? (*it*-1 94 ¶6)

  Jer 49:17, 18—How did Edom become like Sodom and Gomorrah, and why? (*jr* 163 ¶18; *ip-2* 351 ¶6)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Jer 50:1-10

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *T-32*—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *T-32*—Discuss "To Think About." Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Talk:** (6 min. or less) *w15* 3/15 17-18—Theme: In Recent Years, Why Have Our Publications Seldom Mentioned Types and Antitypes?

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 41
- ***Remove the Rafter:*** (15 min.) Play the video *Remove the Rafter* (video category THE BIBLE). Then discuss the following questions: How did the brother demonstrate a proud, critical attitude? What helped him to adjust his thinking? How did he benefit?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 13 ¶11-23
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 148 and Prayer

JEREMIAH 49-50 | Jehovah Blesses Humility and Punishes Arrogance

50:4-7

- Repentant Israelites would weep for joy when Jehovah released them from captivity
- They would acknowledge their covenant with him anew and make the long journey back to Jerusalem to restore true worship

50:29, 39

- Arrogant Babylon would not go unpunished for its excessive cruelty to Jehovah's people
- As prophesied, Babylon became an uninhabited wasteland

Caring for Our Places of Worship

Our Kingdom Halls are more than just buildings; they are places of worship dedicated to Jehovah. How can each of us share in caring for the Kingdom Hall? Discuss the following questions after watching the video *Caring for Our Places of Worship*.

1. What purposes do Kingdom Halls serve?

2. Why should we keep the Kingdom Hall clean and well-maintained?

3. Who cares for Kingdom Hall maintenance?

4. Why is safety important, and what examples of safety did you observe in the video?

5. How can we honor Jehovah by our donations?

I PLAN TO HAVE A SHARE BY:

Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

AWAKE!

Question: Is the Bible from God? Or is it a book that contains purely the thoughts of men?

Scripture: **2Ti 3:16**

Offer: This issue of *Awake!* considers three lines of evidence that the Bible really is from God.

TEACH THE TRUTH

Question: How should we view the gift of life?

Scripture: **Re 4:11**

Truth: Since life is a gift from God, we treat it with respect. We are safety conscious, and we would never intentionally take the life of another human. We treasure the gift of life.

WHAT IS THE KEY TO HAPPY FAMILY LIFE?

Question: Notice the question on the front of this tract as well as some possible answers. What's your opinion?

Scripture: **Lu 11:28**

Offer: This tract outlines what this can mean for your family and why we can believe what the Bible says.

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

- Song 98 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah's Word Comes True in Every Detail":** (10 min.)

  Jer 51:11, 28—Jehovah foretold who would conquer Babylon (*it*-2 360 ¶2-3)

  Jer 51:30—Jehovah foretold that Babylon would not resist invasion (*it*-2 459 ¶4)

  Jer 51:37, 62—Jehovah foretold Babylon's eventual desolation (*it*-1 237 ¶1)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Jer 51:25—Why is Babylon described as a "destructive mountain"? (*it*-2 444 ¶9)

  Jer 51:42—What is evidently meant by "the sea" that would "come up over" Babylon? (*it*-2 882 ¶3)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Jer 51:1-11

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion based on "Sample Presentations." Play each presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Encourage publishers to show the householder information on jw.org under BIBLE TEACHINGS > HELP FOR THE FAMILY.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 3
- **"How Strong Is Your Faith in Jehovah's Promises?":** (15 min.) Questions and answers. Encourage all to discuss Bible prophecies with fellow believers from time to time with the goal of strengthening one another's faith.—Ro 1:11, 12.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 13 ¶24-32
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 8 and Prayer

How Strong Is Your Faith in Jehovah's Promises?

Joshua and Solomon both confirmed that not one word of Jehovah's promises had failed. (Jos 23:14; 1Ki 8:56) The testimony of these two reliable witnesses adds to the solid foundation on which we can build our faith. —2Co 13:1; Tit 1:2.

How did Jehovah fulfill his promises in the days of Joshua? Along with your family, watch the video drama *'Not One Word Has Failed.'* Then consider the following questions: **(1)** How can you imitate Rahab's acts of faith? (Heb 11:31; Jas 2:24-26) **(2)** How does the example of Achan prove that willful disobedience leads to disaster? **(3)** Even though the men of Gibeon were warriors, why did they deceive Joshua and make peace with Israel? **(4)** How did Jehovah's word come true when five Amorite kings threatened Israel? (Jos 10:5-14) **(5)** How has Jehovah acted in your behalf as you put God's Kingdom and his righteousness first in your life?—Mt 6:33.

As we reflect on all that Jehovah has done, is doing, and will do, our faith in his promises will grow stronger. —Ro 8:31, 32.

Do you have faith like that of Joshua?

QUESTIONS FOR MEDITATION:

Which Bible prophecies are you seeing fulfilled in our day?

Which Bible prophecies do you anticipate seeing fulfilled?

JEREMIAH 51-52 | Jehovah's Word Comes True in Every Detail

Archer of the royal Persian guard

Jehovah precisely foretold future events

51:11, 28

"Polish the arrows"

- The Medes and Persians were expert archers and used the bow as their principal weapon. They polished their arrows to make them penetrate deeper

51:30

"The warriors of Babylon have quit fighting"

- The Nabonidus Chronicle says: "The army of Cyrus entered Babylon without battle." This likely means without a general conflict and agrees with the prophecy of Jeremiah

The Nabonidus Chronicle

Photograph taken by courtesy of the British Museum

51:37, 62

"Babylon will become piles of stones [and] desolate forever"

- Beginning in 539 B.C.E., Babylon's glory began to fade. Alexander the Great intended to make Babylon his capital, but he died suddenly. At the start of the Christian era, a community of Jews still existed there, giving the apostle Peter reason to visit Babylon. But by the fourth century C.E., the city was in ruins, and it eventually passed out of existence

How should the fulfillment of Bible prophecy affect me?

What can I teach others about this prophecy?

Babylon conquered **539**

Death of Alexander the Great **323**

Peter in Babylon **c. 62-64**

Babylon lies in ruins

600 B.C.E. | 400 B.C.E. | 200 B.C.E. | B.C.E./C.E. | 200 C.E.

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- Song 143 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"A Waiting Attitude Helps Us to Endure":** (10 min.)
  [Play the video *Introduction to Lamentations*.]
  La 3:20, 21, 24—Jeremiah showed a waiting attitude and relied on Jehovah (*w12* 6/1 14 ¶3-4; *w11* 9/15 8 ¶8)
  La 3:26, 27—Enduring tests of faith will help us to deal with future challenges (*w07* 6/1 11 ¶4-5)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  La 2:17—What particular "saying" did Jehovah carry out in connection with Jerusalem? (*w07* 6/1 9 ¶4)
  La 5:7—Does Jehovah hold people accountable for the errors of their forefathers? (*w07* 6/1 11 ¶1)
  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?
  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?
- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) La 2:20–3:12

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *g17.3* cover—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *g17.3* cover—Invite the person to our meetings.
- **Talk:** (6 min. or less) *w11* 9/15 9-10 ¶11-13—Theme: Jehovah Is My Share.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 91
- **Local Needs:** (8 min.) As an option, discuss "A Letter From the Governing Body" in the *Yearbook*. (*yb17* 2-5)
- **Organizational Accomplishments:** (7 min.) Play the *Organizational Accomplishments* video for June 2017.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 13 ¶33-34, box on pp. 146-147, review box on p. 145
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 71 and Prayer

LAMENTATIONS 1-5 | A Waiting Attitude Helps Us to Endure

3:20, 21, 24, 26, 27

What helped Jeremiah to endure with a good attitude despite intense suffering?

- He was confident that Jehovah would "bow low" over repentant ones among His people and lift them out of their sad condition
- He had learned "to carry the yoke during his youth." Enduring tests of faith while young prepares a person to deal successfully with challenges later in life

How can I prepare for future challenges?

How can I show a waiting attitude?

- Song 111 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Ezekiel Delighted to Declare God's Message":** (10 min.)

  [Play the video *Introduction to Ezekiel.*]

  Eze 2:9–3:2—Ezekiel ate the scroll of "dirges and mourning and wailing" (*w08* 7/15 8 ¶6-7; *it*-1 1214)

  Eze 3:3—Ezekiel was grateful to serve Jehovah as a prophet (*w07* 7/1 12 ¶3)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Eze 1:20, 21, 26-28—What does the celestial chariot picture? (*w07* 7/1 11 ¶6)

  Eze 4:1-7—Did Ezekiel really act out the scene depicting Jerusalem's siege? (*w07* 7/1 12 ¶4)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Eze 1:1-14

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *T-32*—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *T-32*—Play the video *Your Family Can Be Happy—Introduction,* and offer the brochure.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 143 ¶20-21—Show how to reach the heart.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 76
- **"Find Delight in Preaching the Good News":** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Regain Joy Through Study and Meditation* (video category THE BIBLE).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 14 ¶1-7
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 122 and Prayer

EZEKIEL 1-5 | Ezekiel Delighted to Declare God's Message

In a vision, Jehovah gave Ezekiel a scroll and told him to eat it. What was the significance of that?

2:9–3:2

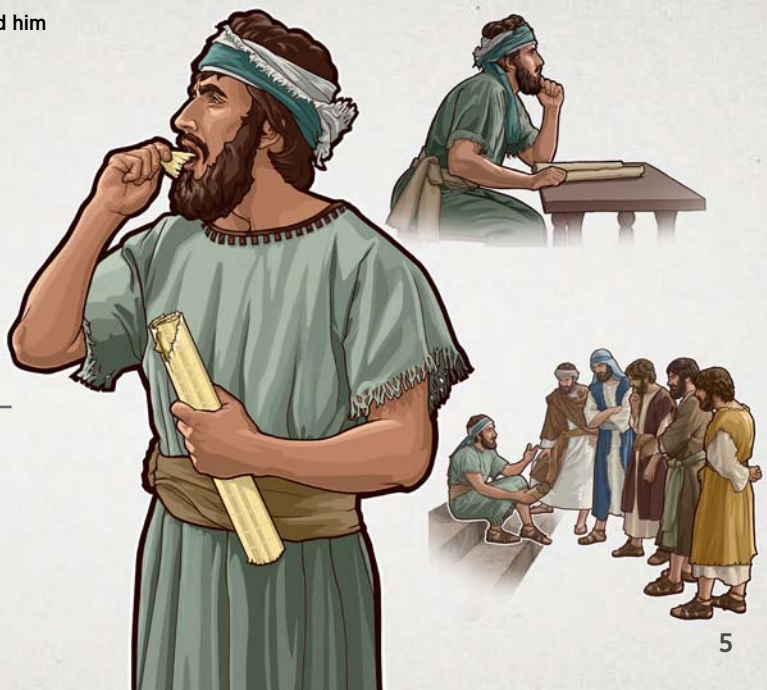
- Ezekiel was to absorb fully God's message. Meditating on the words in the scroll would affect Ezekiel's deepest emotions and motivate him to speak

3:3

- The scroll tasted sweet because Ezekiel maintained a good attitude toward his assignment

How will prayerful Bible study and meditation affect me?

How can I cultivate a good attitude toward the preaching work?



- Song 58 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Will You Be Marked for Survival?":** (10 min.)

  Eze 9:1, 2—Ezekiel's vision has meaning for us (*w16.06* 16-17)

  Eze 9:3, 4—Those who have responded favorably to the preaching work will be marked for survival at some point during the great tribulation

  Eze 9:5-7—Jehovah will not destroy the righteous along with the wicked

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Eze 7:19—How does this verse help us to prepare for the future? (*w09* 9/15 23 ¶10)

  Eze 8:12—How does this verse show that a lack of faith can lead to wrong conduct? (*w11* 4/15 26 ¶14)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Eze 8:1-12

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Re 4:11—Teach the Truth.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Ps 11:5; 2Co 7:1—Teach the Truth.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 127 ¶4-5—Show how to reach the heart.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 56
- **"Uphold Jehovah's Moral Standards":** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Become Jehovah's Friend—One Man, One Woman* (video category CHILDREN).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 14 ¶8-14, box on p. 150
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 55 and Prayer

EZEKIEL 6-10 | Will You Be Marked for Survival?

Ezekiel's vision was initially fulfilled with the destruction of ancient Jerusalem. What is the modern-day fulfillment?

9:1, 2

- The man with the secretary's inkhorn represents Jesus Christ
- The six men with smashing weapons represent the heavenly armies with Christ at the head

9:3-7

- The great crowd will receive the mark when they are judged as sheep during the great tribulation

What action must I take to be marked for survival?

Uphold Jehovah's Moral Standards

Jehovah God sets the standard of morality for humans. For instance, he decrees that marriage is a permanent union between a man and a woman. (Mt 19:4-6, 9) He condemns all types of sexual immorality. (1Co 6:9, 10) He even provides principles regarding dress and grooming that set his people apart.—De 22:5; 1Ti 2:9, 10.

In today's world, many people reject Jehovah's standards. (Ro 1:18-32) They allow popular opinion to influence their dress and grooming and their conduct. Many flaunt their gross wrongdoing and criticize those who live by a different standard.—1Pe 4:3, 4.

As Jehovah's Witnesses, we must courageously uphold God's moral standards. (Ro 12:9) How? We should tactfully make known what is acceptable to him. But we also need to maintain a high standard in our own life. For instance, when selecting styles of dress and grooming, we might ask ourselves: 'Do my choices reflect Jehovah's standards or the world's? Does my dress and grooming identify me as a God-fearing Christian?' Or when choosing a program or a movie to watch, we might ask ourselves: 'Would Jehovah approve of this program? Whose standards of morality does it promote? Might my choice of entertainment weaken my moral defenses? (Ps 101:3) Could it be a stumbling block to family members or others?' —1Co 10:31-33.

Why is it so important that we uphold Jehovah's moral standards? Christ Jesus will soon destroy the nations and all wickedness. (Eze 9:4-7) Only those who are doing the will of God will remain. (1Jo 2:15-17) Let us, then, champion Jehovah's moral standards so that eyewitnesses of our good conduct may glorify God.—1Pe 2:11, 12.

WATCH THE VIDEO *BECOME JEHOVAH'S FRIEND—ONE MAN, ONE WOMAN,* AND THEN CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- Why is it wise to live by Jehovah's standards?

- Why should parents start to teach Jehovah's moral standards to their children at an early age?

- How can young and old alike help people to benefit from God's goodness?

What do my choices of dress and grooming say about my moral standards?

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IF SOMEONE SAYS . . .

"What's your view of homosexuality?"

"The Bible's view of homosexuality is narrow-minded!"

"Homosexuals can't change the way they are; they're born that way."

(*yp1* chap. 23; *yp2* chap. 28)

Find Delight in Preaching the Good News

Which disposition would you like to have in the ministry?

How can you reflect joy?

Have you ever found it difficult to preach? Many of us would answer yes to that question. Why? Maybe we regularly face apathy or hostility in our territory or we fear talking to strangers. Certainly, these things can dampen our joy. Yet, we worship the happy God who wants us to serve him with rejoicing. (Ps 100:2; 1Ti 1:11) What are three good reasons to delight in preaching?

First, we declare a message of hope. Although hope is diminishing in society today, we can fill people's hearts with "good news of something better." (Isa 52:7) But the good news of God's Kingdom can also fill us with joy. Before going out to preach, meditate on the blessings that God's Kingdom will bring to the earth.

Second, the good news we preach benefits people physically and spiritually. They learn to abandon harmful practices and gain the prospect of everlasting life. (Isa 48:17, 18; Ro 1:16) We can imagine ourselves in a search-and-rescue work. Even though some people do not want to be rescued, we keep on searching for those who do.—Mt 10:11-14.

Third, and most important, our preaching honors Jehovah. He highly values our witnessing work. (Isa 43:10; Heb 6:10) Furthermore, he generously gives us his holy spirit to accomplish this work. Therefore, beg Jehovah for joy, a product of holy spirit. (Ga 5:22) With his help, we can overcome our anxieties and preach with boldness. (Ac 4:31) Then, regardless of the response in our territory, we will find delight in our assignment to preach.—Eze 3:3.

WATCH THE VIDEO *REGAIN JOY THROUGH STUDY AND MEDITATION,* AND THEN ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

Why must we give priority to our spiritual eating habits, even if we spend many hours preaching each month?

In what way should we imitate Mary?

When do you make time to meditate on God's Word?

What brings you delight when preaching the good news?

Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

THE WATCHTOWER

Question: Is death part of God's will for us?

Scripture: **Re 21:4**

Offer: This issue of *The Watchtower* examines what the Bible says about life and death.

TEACH THE TRUTH

Question: Why is there so much suffering?

Scripture: **1Jo 5:19**

Truth: Satan the Devil is the ruler of the world.

WHAT HAPPENS AT A BIBLE STUDY?

Offer: Jehovah's Witnesses offer free Bible lessons that answer such questions as: Why is there so much suffering? How can my family be happy? This brief video explains how our Bible lessons are conducted. [Play the video.] We can use this publication for our discussions. [Show one of our study publications, and if possible, demonstrate a Bible study.]

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

- Song 36 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Do You Have a Heart of Flesh?":** (10 min.)

  Eze 11:17, 18—Jehovah promised a restoration of true worship (*w07* 7/1 11 ¶4)

  Eze 11:19—Jehovah can give us a heart that is sensitive to his guidance (*w16.05* 15 ¶9)

  Eze 11:20—Jehovah wants us to apply what we learn

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Eze 12:26-28—What responsibility do these verses place on Jehovah's servants? (*w07* 7/1 13 ¶8)

  Eze 14:13, 14—What lessons do we learn from the mention of these individuals? (*w16.05* 26 ¶13; *w07* 7/1 13 ¶9)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Eze 12:1-10

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion based on "Sample Presentations." Play each presentation video, and then discuss the highlights.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 129
- **Local Needs:** (15 min.) As an option, discuss the lessons learned from the *Yearbook*. (*yb17* 41-43)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 14 ¶15-23, review box on p. 156
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 126 and Prayer

EZEKIEL 11-14 | Do You Have a Heart of Flesh?

Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Entertainment

Dress & Grooming

Love & Forgiveness

11:19 What is Jehovah's guidance?			
11:20 How can I follow God's guidance more fully?			

- Song 49 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Do You Keep Your Promises?":** (10 min.)

  Eze 17:1-4—Babylon replaced King Jehoiachin with Zedekiah (*w07* 7/1 12 ¶6)

  Eze 17:7, 15—Zedekiah broke his loyalty oath and sought military help from Egypt (*w07* 7/1 12 ¶6)

  Eze 17:18, 19—Jehovah expected Zedekiah to keep his word (*w12* 10/15 30 ¶11; *w88* 9/15 17 ¶8)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Eze 16:60—What is the "permanent covenant," and who are included in it? (*w88* 9/15 17 ¶7)

  Eze 17:22, 23—Who is the "tender shoot" that Jehovah said he would plant? (*w07* 7/1 12 ¶6)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Eze 16:28-42

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *wp17.4* cover —Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *wp17.4* cover —Introduce and discuss (but do not play) the video *Why Study the Bible?*
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *fg* lesson 11 ¶1-2 —Invite the person to the meeting.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 131
- **Fulfill Your Marriage Vow Even When You Are Disappointed With Your Marriage:** (10 min.) Talk by an elder based on the March 2014 *Awake!* pages 14-15.
- ***Become Jehovah's Friend—Be Truthful:*** (5 min.) Play the video. Afterward, invite selected young children to the stage, and ask them questions about the video (video category CHILDREN).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 15 ¶1-8
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 73 and Prayer

EZEKIEL 15-17 | Do You Keep Your Promises?

17:18, 19

Write your answers in the spaces provided.

What oath did King Zedekiah break?

What were the consequences of breaking his oath?

Promises and agreements I have made:

Possible consequences of breaking my promises and agreements:

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- Song 125 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"When Jehovah Forgives, Does He Forget?":** (10 min.)

  Eze 18:19, 20—Jehovah holds each person responsible for his own actions (*w12* 7/1 18 ¶2)

  Eze 18:21, 22—Jehovah is ready to forgive repentant ones and will never again hold their sins against them (*w12* 7/1 18 ¶3-7)

  Eze 18:23, 32—Jehovah destroys the wicked only as a last resort (*w08* 4/1 8 ¶4; *w06* 12/1 27 ¶11)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Eze 18:29—Why did the Israelites develop a wrong viewpoint about Jehovah, and how can we avoid making the same mistake? (*w13* 8/15 11 ¶9)

  Eze 20:49—Why did the people think that Ezekiel was "speaking in riddles," and what warning does this provide for us? (*w07* 7/1 14 ¶3)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Eze 20:1-12

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) 1Jo 5:19—Teach the Truth. Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Ge 3:2-5—Teach the Truth. Lay the groundwork for the next visit. (See *mwb16.08* 8 ¶2.)
- **Talk:** (6 min. or less) *w16.05* 32—Theme: How Can the Congregation Express Its Joy When an Announcement Is Made That Someone Has Been Reinstated?

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 130
- **"Do You Forgive Yourself?":** (10 min.) Discussion. Begin by playing the video *Loyally Uphold Jehovah's Judgments—Be Forgiving.*
- **Young People Ask—How Can I Deal With My Mistakes?:** (5 min.) Discussion of the article "Young People Ask—How Can I Deal With My Mistakes?" Begin by playing the audio recording of the section "What Would You Do?" (Go to jw.org, and look under BIBLE TEACHINGS > TEENAGERS.)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 15 ¶9-17
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 33 and Prayer

Do You Forgive Yourself?

It can be difficult to forgive ourselves for past mistakes that Jehovah has already forgiven. This matter was considered at the 2016 "Remain Loyal to Jehovah!" Regional Convention by means of a talk and a video. Use the *JW Library* app to watch the video again, and then answer the following questions:

How long was Sonja disfellowshipped?

How did the congregation treat Sonja when she was reinstated?

What scripture did the elders share with Sonja, and how did it help her?

What feelings did Sonja struggle with, and how did her father help her?

EZEKIEL 18-20 | When Jehovah Forgives, Does He Forget?

18:21, 22

When Jehovah forgives our sins, he will never hold those sins against us in the future. The following Bible examples help us to trust in Jehovah's forgiveness.

Write your answers in the spaces provided.

King David

Wrongdoing:

Basis for forgiveness:

Evidence of Jehovah's forgiveness:

King Manasseh

Wrongdoing:

Basis for forgiveness:

Evidence of Jehovah's forgiveness:

Apostle Peter

Wrongdoing:

Basis for forgiveness:

Evidence of Jehovah's forgiveness:

I can imitate Jehovah's forgiveness by:

- Song 14 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"The Kingship Belongs to the One With the Legal Right":** (10 min.)

  Eze 21:25—The "wicked chieftain of Israel" was King Zedekiah (*w07* 7/1 13 ¶11)

  Eze 21:26—The line of Davidic kings ruling in Jerusalem would cease (*w11* 8/15 9 ¶6)

  Eze 21:27—The one who has the "legal right" is Jesus Christ (*w14* 10/15 10 ¶14)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Eze 21:3—What is the "sword" that Jehovah brings forth out of its sheath? (*w07* 7/1 14 ¶1)

  Eze 23:49—What error is highlighted in chapter 23, and what lesson can we learn? (*w07* 7/1 14 ¶6)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Eze 21:1-13

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *fg*—Introduce and discuss (but do not play) the video *What Happens at a Bible Study?*
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *bh*—Introduce and discuss (but do not play) the video *What Happens at a Bible Study?* when speaking to someone on your magazine route.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 215 ¶3–216 ¶1

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 82
- **"Good Doorstep Manners":** (15 min.) Discussion by the service overseer. Begin by playing the video that provides cautions about our doorstep manners.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 15 ¶18-28
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 34 and Prayer

EZEKIEL 21-23 | The Kingship Belongs to the One With the Legal Right

Jesus had the "legal right" to kingly power in fulfillment of Ezekiel's prophecy.

Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Ge 49:10

The Messiah came through the tribe of .....

2Sa 7:12, 16

Jehovah told .....

that his kingdom would be secure forever

Mt 1:16

Matthew provided the legal genealogy through .....

What do you learn about Jehovah from his decision to establish Jesus' kingship legally?

- Song 118 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"A Prophecy Against Tyre Strengthens Confidence in Jehovah's Word":** (10 min.)

  Eze 26:3, 4—Over 250 years in advance, Jehovah foretold the destruction of Tyre (*si* 133 ¶4)

  Eze 26:7-11—Ezekiel named the first nation and its leader to besiege Tyre (*ce* 216 ¶3)

  Eze 26:4, 12—Ezekiel foretold that the walls, houses, and soil of Tyre would be thrown into the water (*it*-1 70)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Eze 24:6, 12—What does the rust of the cooking pot represent? (*w07* 7/1 14 ¶2)

  Eze 24:16, 17—Why was Ezekiel to display no grief when his wife died? (*w88* 9/15 21 ¶24)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Eze 25:1-11

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Any tract—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Any tract—Introduce and discuss (but do not play) the video *What Happens at a Bible Study?*
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 23 ¶13-15—Invite the person to the meeting.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 139
- **Faith in God's Word Helps Us to Endure Trials:** (15 min.) Discussion based on such scriptures as Isaiah 33:24; 65:21, 22; John 5:28, 29; and Revelation 21:4. Play the video *Appreciating the Benefits of Kingdom Rule* (video category THE BIBLE). Encourage all to imagine themselves in the new world, especially when discouraged by trials.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 15 ¶29-36, review box on p. 167
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 134 and Prayer

EZEKIEL 24-27 | A Prophecy Against Tyre Strengthens Confidence in Jehovah's Word

The book of Ezekiel foretold specific details regarding Tyre's destruction.

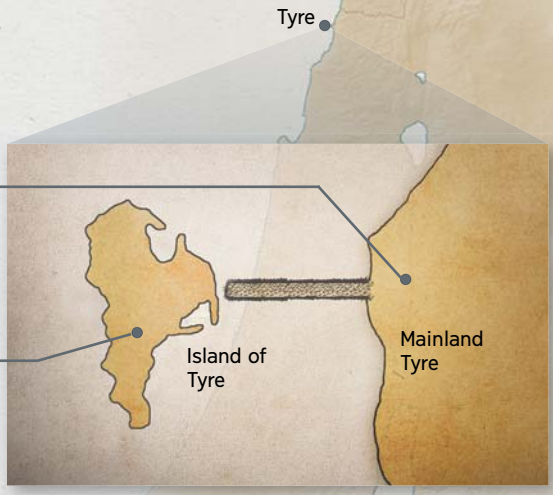
Write your answers in the spaces provided.

26:7-11

Sometime after 607 B.C.E., ... destroyed the mainland city of Tyre

26:4, 12

In 332 B.C.E., ... used the ruins of the mainland city to build a causeway and destroyed the island city of Tyre



What detailed prophecy are you looking forward to seeing fulfilled?

Good Doorstep Manners

Christians are “a theatrical spectacle to the world.” (1Co 4:9) Therefore, it should not surprise us that some householders watch us from a window or listen from behind the door. The home may even have a security camera and a microphone that allow the householder to observe, listen to, and record us. Here are some ways to show good manners when at the doorstep.—2Co 6:3.

- **BY YOUR CONDUCT (Php 1:27):**

  Respect the householder’s privacy by not peering into the home. Do not eat, drink, make phone calls, or send text messages while standing at the door

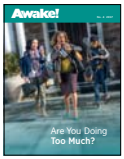
- **BY YOUR SPEECH (Eph 4:29):**

  While at the doorstep, do not say anything that you would not want the householder to hear. Some publishers may even prefer to suspend conversation altogether so that they can collect their thoughts about what they want to say

What are some other ways that you can display good doorstep manners?

Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations



AWAKE!

Question: How can we be balanced in our use of time?

Scripture: **Ec 4:6**

Offer: This issue of *Awake!* provides practical suggestions regarding priorities.

TEACH THE TRUTH

Question: Why are we here?

Scripture: **Ps 37:29**

Truth: God created humans to live forever on the earth.

Publishers offering the *Good News* brochure in Azerbaijan

GOOD NEWS FROM GOD!

Question: Where do you think we can turn to for good news? [Show the video *Would You Like Good News?*]

Scripture: **Isa 52:7**

Offer: This brochure offers “good news of something better” because it contains a message from the Bible.

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

- Song 136 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Rewarded a Pagan Nation":** (10 min.)

  Eze 29:18—King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon obtained no reward for his difficult conquest of Tyre (*it*-2 1136 ¶4)

  Eze 29:19—King Nebuchadnezzar received Egypt as spoil in place of Tyre (*it*-1 698 ¶5)

  Eze 29:20—Jehovah rewarded the Babylonians because they had acted in his behalf (*g86* 11/8 27 ¶4-5)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Eze 28:12-19—How did the course taken by Tyre's rulers resemble that of Satan? (*it*-2 604 ¶4-5)

  Eze 30:13, 14—How was this prophecy fulfilled? (*w03* 7/1 32 ¶1-3)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Eze 29:1-12

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion based on "Sample Presentations." Play each presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Encourage publishers to include current events in their presentations and to make good use of the video *Would You Like Good News?* when offering the *Good News* brochure.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 120
- **Local Needs:** (5 min.) As an option, discuss the lessons learned from the *Yearbook*. (*yb17* 35-36)
- **"Cultivate Godly Qualities—Humility":** (10 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Avoid What Erodes Loyalty—Pride*.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* pp. 168-169, chap. 16 ¶1-5, boxes on pp. 175-177
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 93 and Prayer

Cultivate Godly Qualities—Humility

WHY IMPORTANT:

- Humility leads to a close relationship with Jehovah.—Ps 138:6
- Humility promotes good relationships with others.—Php 2:3, 4
- Pride is destructive.—Pr 16:18; Eze 28:17

HOW TO DO IT:

- Ask for counsel and apply it.—Ps 141:5; Pr 19:20
- Readily perform menial tasks for others.—Mt 20:25-27
- Do not allow skills or privileges to inflate your ego.—Ro 12:3

In what ways can I show humility to a greater degree?

WATCH THE VIDEO *AVOID WHAT ERODES LOYALTY—PRIDE*, AND THEN ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

What does our response to counsel reveal about our attitude?

How does prayer help us to cultivate humility?

What are some ways to demonstrate humility?

BIBLE EXAMPLE FOR MEDITATION: Jesus was the greatest man who ever lived. Yet, he humbly served others.—Mt 20:28; Joh 13:3-5, 14, 15.

Ask yourself, 'How can I imitate Jesus' humility?'

EZEKIEL 28-31 | Jehovah Rewarded a Pagan Nation

29:18-20

If Jehovah rewarded a pagan nation for a service, how much more so will he show appreciation for the work of his loyal servants!

BABYLONIAN ACTION	MY ACTIONS
Siege of Tyre	What kind of spiritual warfare do I wage?

BABYLONIAN SACRIFICES	MY SACRIFICES
The costly siege of Tyre lasted 13 years Babylonian soldiers suffered physically The Babylonians received no wages	What sacrifices have I made in service to Jehovah?

HOW JEHOVAH REWARDED BABYLON	MY REWARDS FROM JEHOVAH
Jehovah gave Egypt as spoil	How does Jehovah reward me?

Write the correct Bible text in the space provided for each quotation.

Ru 2:12

Mal 3:16

Heb 6:10

_____

"God is not unrighteous so as to forget your work and the love you showed for his name."

_____

"May Jehovah reward you for what you have done, and may there be a perfect wage for you from Jehovah."

_____

"A book of remembrance was written before him for those fearing Jehovah and for those meditating on his name."

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- Song 60 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"The Watchman's Heavy Responsibility":** (10 min.)
  Eze 33:7—Jehovah appointed Ezekiel as a watchman (*it-2* 1172 ¶2)
  Eze 33:8, 9—The watchman avoided bloodguilt by sounding the warning (*w88* 1/1 28 ¶13)
  Eze 33:11, 14-16—Jehovah will preserve alive those who heed the warning (*w12* 3/15 15 ¶3)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Eze 33:32, 33—Why should we persist in preaching despite apathy? (*w91* 3/15 17 ¶16-17)
  Eze 34:23—How has this verse been fulfilled? (*w07* 4/1 26 ¶3)
  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?
  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?
- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Eze 32:1-16

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *g17.4* cover—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *g17.4* cover—Invite the person to our meetings.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *fg* lesson 2 ¶9-10 —Show how to reach the heart.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 47
- **"Cultivate Godly Qualities—Courage":** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Avoid What Erodes Loyalty—Fear of Man.*
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 16 ¶6-17
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 86 and Prayer

Cultivate Godly Qualities—Courage

WHY IMPORTANT:

- Preaching requires courage.—Ac 5:27-29, 41, 42
- The great tribulation will test our courage. —Mt 24:15-21
- Fear of man leads to tragedy.—Jer 38:17-20; 39:4-7

HOW TO DO IT:

- Meditate on Jehovah's saving acts. —Ex 14:13
- Pray for courage and boldness. —Ac 4:29, 31
- Put your trust in Jehovah.—Ps 118:6

What fears do I need to overcome in my ministry?

WATCH THE VIDEO *AVOID WHAT ERODES LOYALTY—FEAR OF MAN,* AND THEN ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

Why is courage essential in our ministry?

What contrast do we find at Proverbs 29:25?

Why must we develop godly courage now?

BIBLE EXAMPLE FOR MEDITATION: Ezekiel was told that his work as a prophet would be challenging.—Eze 2:3-7; 33:7-9.

Ask yourself, 'How can I imitate Ezekiel's courage?'

EZEKIEL 32-34 | The Watchman's Heavy Responsibility

Literal watchmen were often stationed on the city walls and towers to warn of approaching danger. Jehovah appointed Ezekiel as a figurative "watchman to the house of Israel."

33:7

Ezekiel warned Israel that execution would come upon them if they did not turn away from their bad ways

What message from Jehovah do we proclaim today?

33:9, 14-16

By sounding the warning, Ezekiel could save his life and the lives of others

What should motivate us to proclaim the urgent message that Jehovah has entrusted to us?

This week I will try to preach to . . .

- ☐ a classmate
- ☐ a coworker
- ☐ an unbelieving family member
- ☐ other: _____

- Song 149 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Gog of Magog Will Soon Be Destroyed":** (10 min.)

  Eze 38:2—The name Gog of Magog refers to a coalition of nations (*w15* 5/15 29-30)

  Eze 38:14-16—Gog of Magog will attack Jehovah's people (*w12* 9/15 5-6 ¶8-9)

  Eze 38:21-23—Jehovah God will magnify and sanctify himself by destroying Gog of Magog (*w14* 11/15 27 ¶16)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Eze 36:20, 21—What is a primary reason why we must maintain fine conduct? (*w02* 6/15 20 ¶12)

  Eze 36:33-36—How have these words been fulfilled in modern times? (*w88* 9/15 24 ¶11)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Eze 35:1-15

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Ps 37:29—Teach the Truth.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Ge 1:28; Isa 55:11—Teach the Truth.
- **Talk:** (6 min. or less) *w16.07* 31-32—Theme: What Is the Meaning of the Joining Together of the Two Sticks?

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 119
- **"Cultivate Godly Qualities—Faith":** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Pursue What Builds Loyalty—Faith.*
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 16 ¶18-24, box on p. 178, review box on p. 181
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 87 and Prayer

EZEKIEL 35-38 | Gog of Magog Will Soon Be Destroyed

The Bible describes the events that will occur before and after the destruction of Gog of Magog.

Re 17:16-18	Eze 38:2, 11, 15	Re 16:16	Re 20:4
The great tribulation will begin with the destruction of	Jehovah's people will be attacked by	Jehovah will destroy Gog of Magog in the war of	Christ will begin his reign of .....

How can I prepare spiritually for the attack of Gog of Magog?

- Song 24 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Ezekiel's Temple Vision and You":** (10 min.)

  Eze 40:2—Jehovah's worship is elevated high above any other form of worship (*w99* 3/1 11 ¶16)

  Eze 40:3, 5—Jehovah will certainly fulfill his purpose concerning pure worship (*w07* 8/1 10 ¶2)

  Eze 40:10, 14, 16—We must live by Jehovah's lofty and upright standards in order to worship him acceptably (*w07* 8/1 11 ¶4)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Eze 39:7—When humans blame God for injustice, how are they profaning his name? (*w12* 9/1 21 ¶2)

  Eze 39:9—After Armageddon, what will be done with the war equipment that the nations will leave behind? (*w89* 8/15 14 ¶20)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Eze 40:32-47

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *fg* lesson 1 ¶1—Begin by introducing (but do not play) the video *Would You Like Good News?* Offer the brochure.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *fg* lesson 1 ¶2—Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *fg* lesson 1 ¶3-4

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 53
- **"When Can I Next Serve as an Auxiliary Pioneer?":** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *With Jehovah, I Can Do Almost Anything* (video category INTERVIEWS AND EXPERIENCES).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 17 ¶1-9
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 67 and Prayer

EZEKIEL 39-41 | Ezekiel's Temple Vision and You

40:10, 14, 16

The guard chambers and lofty pillars remind us that Jehovah has high standards for pure worship

Ask yourself, 'In what ways can I uphold Jehovah's lofty and upright standards?'

Cultivate Godly Qualities—Faith

WHY IMPORTANT:

- Faith is needed to please God well. —Heb 11:6
- Faith in God's promises helps us to endure trials.—1Pe 1:6, 7
- Lack of faith can lead to sin.—Heb 3:12, 13

HOW TO DO IT:

- Pray for more faith.—Lu 11:9, 13; Ga 5:22
- Read God's Word and meditate on it. —Ro 10:17; 1Ti 4:15
- Regularly associate with people of faith. —Ro 1:11, 12

How can I strengthen my own faith and that of my family?

WATCH THE VIDEO *PURSUE WHAT BUILDS LOYALTY—FAITH,* AND THEN ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

What is "faith without hypocrisy"? (1Ti 1:5)

To build strong faith, what negative influences must we avoid?

Why will faith be necessary during the great tribulation? (Heb 10:39)

BIBLE EXAMPLE FOR MEDITATION:
Abraham demonstrated faith in Jehovah even when it was difficult.—Heb 11:8-10, 17-19.

Ask yourself, 'How can I imitate Abraham's faith?'

When Can I Next Serve as an Auxiliary Pioneer?

Ezekiel's temple vision reveals that Jehovah's people would make voluntary offerings. How can we personally share in making sacrifices of praise?—Heb 13:15, 16.

One excellent way is to serve as an auxiliary pioneer. The 2018 service year contains several months that have five Saturdays or five Sundays. This is especially helpful to those who work full-time secularly and participate in the ministry mostly on the weekends. Additionally, publishers may choose either a 30- or a 50-hour requirement during the months of March and April and during the month of the circuit overseer's visit.

What if our circumstances do not permit us to share in the auxiliary pioneer service? We can certainly strive to improve the quality of our ministry and perhaps increase the quantity as well. Whatever our circumstances, may love for Jehovah impel us to offer him our best during the 2018 service year!—Ho 14:2.

How can I imitate the zeal of Sabina Hernández?

WATCH THE VIDEO *WITH JEHOVAH, I CAN DO ALMOST ANYTHING,* AND THEN ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- What motivates Sabina to do more in Jehovah's service?
- How does Sabina's example encourage you?
- During the 2018 service year, which month(s) can you serve as an auxiliary pioneer?

Vol. 2, No. 8

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Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

THE WATCHTOWER

Question: Are angels real?

Scripture: **Ps 103:20**

Offer: This issue of *The Watchtower* discusses what the Bible says about angels and how they affect our life now.

TEACH THE TRUTH

Question: Do you think that science has disproved the Bible?

Scripture: **Isa 40:22**

Truth: What the Bible says about scientific matters is accurate.

CONGREGATION MEETING INVITATION (*inv*)

Offer: I'd like to invite you to a free Bible talk. It will be held at the local Kingdom Hall, our place of worship. [Offer the meeting invitation, point out the time and location of the weekend meeting, and mention the theme of the public talk.]

Question: Have you been to a Kingdom Hall before? [If appropriate, show the video *What Happens at a Kingdom Hall?*]

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

- Song 31 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Pure Worship Restored!":** (10 min.)

  Eze 43:10-12—Ezekiel's temple vision was meant to move the exiled Jews to repentance and to reassure them that pure worship would be restored to its rightful, elevated state (*w99* 3/1 8 ¶3; *it*-2 1082 ¶2)

  Eze 44:23—The priests would instruct the people about "the difference between what is unclean and what is clean"

  Eze 45:16—The people would support those whom Jehovah had appointed to take the lead (*w99* 3/1 10 ¶10)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Eze 43:8, 9—How did Israel defile God's name? (*it*-2 467 ¶4)

  Eze 45:9, 10—Jehovah has always required what of those desiring to gain his approval? (*it*-2 140)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Eze 44:1-9

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion based on "Sample Presentations." Play each presentation video, and then discuss the highlights.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 77
- **"Why Do You Value Pure Worship?":** (15 min.) Discussion.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 17 ¶10-18
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 97 and Prayer

Why Do You Value Pure Worship?

Jewish exiles were encouraged by Ezekiel's temple vision because it gave them hope that pure worship would be restored. During these last days, pure worship has "become firmly established above the top of the mountains," and we are among those from all nations who have streamed to it. (Isa 2:2) Do you regularly reflect on your privilege of knowing and serving Jehovah?

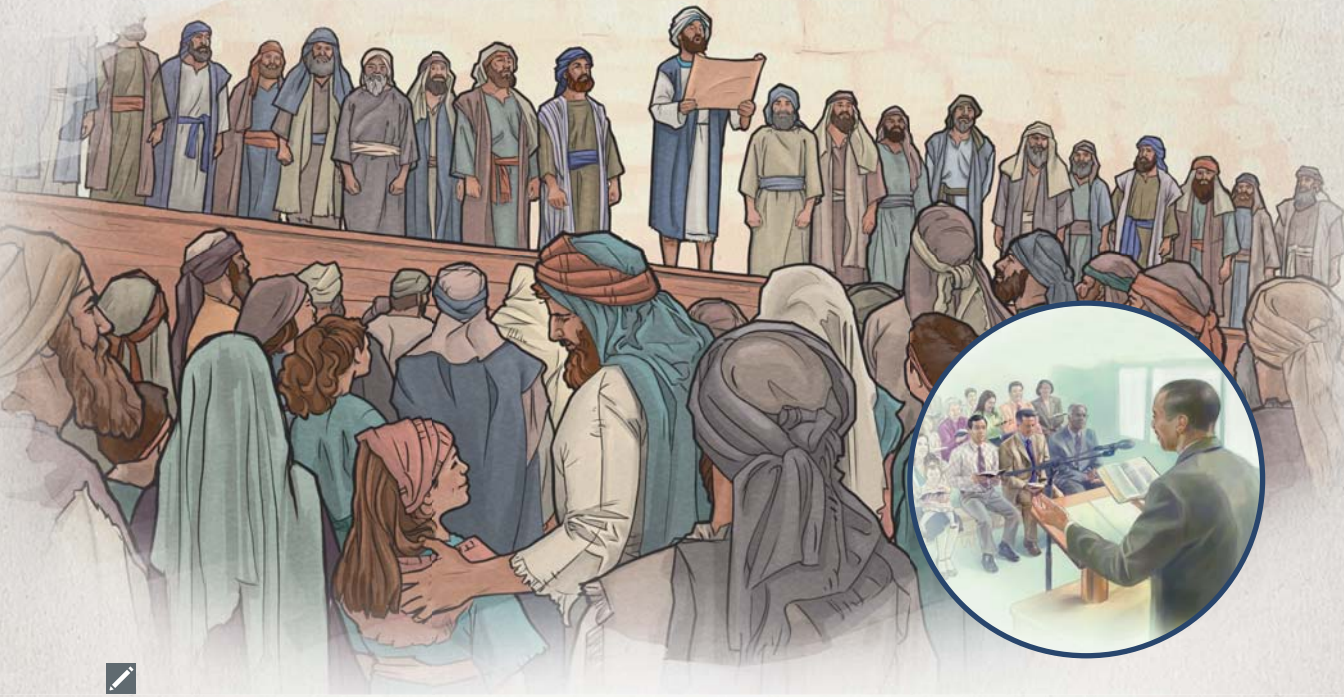
BLESSINGS OF PURE WORSHIP:

- Abundant spiritual food that provides answers to life's big questions, practical values to live by, and a sure hope.—Isa 48:17, 18; 65:13; Ro 15:4
- A loving worldwide brotherhood.—Ps 133:1; Joh 13:35
- The privilege of being God's fellow workers in a satisfying work.—Acts 20:35; 1Co 3:9
- "The peace of God" that strengthens us during adversity.—Php 4:6, 7
- A clean conscience.—2Ti 1:3
- "Close friendship with Jehovah."—Ps 25:14

In what ways can I demonstrate that I value pure worship?

EZEKIEL 42-45 | Pure Worship Restored!

Ezekiel's temple vision reassured the faithful remnant of exiled Jews that pure worship would be restored. At the same time, it reminded them of Jehovah's high standards of pure worship.



44:23

- The priests would teach the people Jehovah's standards

List some examples of how the faithful and discreet slave has taught us the difference between what is unclean and what is clean. (*kr* 110-117)

45:16

- The people would support those taking the lead

What are some ways that we can show our support of the elders in the congregation?

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- Song 139 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Blessings That Restored Israel Would Enjoy":** (10 min.)

  Eze 47:1, 7-12—The restored land would be fruitful (*w99* 3/1 10 ¶11-12)

  Eze 47:13, 14—Each family would receive an inheritance (*w99* 3/1 10 ¶10)

  Eze 48:9, 10—Before land was allotted to the people, a special portion of the land would be "set apart" as a "contribution" to Jehovah

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Eze 47:1, 8; 48:30, 32-34—Why did the Jewish exiles not expect every detail of Ezekiel's temple vision to be fulfilled literally? (*w99* 3/1 11 ¶14)

  Eze 47:6—Why is Ezekiel called "son of man"? (*it*-2 1001)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Eze 48:13-22

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *wp17.5* cover—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *wp17.5*—The magazine was placed on the preceding visit. Demonstrate a return visit, and introduce one of our Bible study publications.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 34 ¶17—Invite the person to the meeting.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 62
- **Local Needs:** (8 min.) As an option, discuss the lessons learned from the *Yearbook*. (*yb17* 64-65)
- **Organizational Accomplishments:** (7 min.) Play the *Organizational Accomplishments* video for September.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 17 ¶19-20, box on pp. 188-191, review box on p. 187
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 49 and Prayer

EZEKIEL 46-48 | Blessings That Restored Israel Would Enjoy

Ezekiel's temple vision lifted the hearts of exiled Israelites and confirmed earlier prophecies of restoration. Pure worship would occupy an exalted place for those blessed by Jehovah.

47:7-14

The vision promised organization, cooperation, and security

- Flourishing, fruitful land
- An inheritance for each family

48:9, 10

Before land was allotted to the people, a special portion of the land was "set apart" as a "contribution" to Jehovah

How can I demonstrate that Jehovah's worship takes first place in my life? (*w06* 4/15 27-28 ¶13-14)

- Song 148 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Loyalty to Jehovah Brings Rewards":** (10 min.)
  [Play the video *Introduction to Daniel.*]
  Da 3:16-20—Daniel's companions withstood the intense pressure to be disloyal to Jehovah (*w15* 7/15 25 ¶15-16)
  Da 3:26-29—Their loyalty resulted in praise to Jehovah and blessings to them (*w13* 1/15 10 ¶13)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Da 1:5, 8—Why did Daniel and his three companions conclude that their eating of the king's delicacies would defile them? (*it-2* 382)
  Da 2:44—Why will God's Kingdom have to crush the earthly rulerships depicted in the image? (*w12* 6/15 17, box; *w01* 10/15 6 ¶4)
  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?
  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?
- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Da 2:31-43

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Isa 40:22—Teach the Truth—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Ro 15:4—Teach the Truth—Leave a JW.ORG contact card.
- **Talk:** (6 min. or less) *w17.02* 29-30—Theme: Does Jehovah Assess in Advance How Much Pressure We Can Bear and Then Choose the Trials We Will Face?

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 124
- **"Be Loyal When Tempted":** (8 min.) Discussion.
- **"Be Loyal When a Relative Is Disfellowshipped":** (7 min.) Discussion.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* pp. 192-193, chap. 18 ¶1-8
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 72 and Prayer

DANIEL 1-3 | Loyalty to Jehovah Brings Rewards

3:16-20, 26-29

The account of the three Hebrews can strengthen our determination to be loyal to Jehovah

According to the following scriptures, what does loyalty to Jehovah involve?

Mt 24:14	Joh 17:16	1Co 6:9, 10

- Song 47 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Are You Serving Jehovah Continually?":** (10 min.)

  Da 6:7-10—Daniel risked his life in order to serve Jehovah continually (*w10* 11/15 6 ¶16; *w06* 11/1 24 ¶12)

  Da 6:16, 20—King Darius noted Daniel's close relationship with Jehovah (*w03* 9/15 15 ¶2)

  Da 6:22, 23—Jehovah blessed Daniel for his unwavering worship (*w10* 2/15 18 ¶15)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Da 4:10, 11, 20-22—What did the immense tree in Nebuchadnezzar's dream represent? (*w07* 9/1 18 ¶5)

  Da 5:17, 29—Why did Daniel initially not accept King Belshazzar's gifts but later accept them? (*w88* 10/1 30 ¶3-5; *dp* 109 ¶22)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Da 4:29-37

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *inv*
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *inv*—The meeting invitation was placed on the preceding visit. Demonstrate a return visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 120 ¶16—Encourage the student to demonstrate integrity despite opposition from a family member.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 79
- **"Train Them to Serve Jehovah Continually":** (15 min.) Discussion. Afterward, play and discuss the video that shows an experienced publisher working in the ministry with a new publisher.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 18 ¶9-20, box on pp. 200-201, review box on p. 199
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 109 and Prayer

DANIEL 4-6 | Are You Serving Jehovah Continually?

6:10

Daniel's spiritual routine included prayer. He did not allow anything, not even a royal decree, to interfere with his routine

A good spiritual routine includes:

Train Them to Serve Jehovah Continually

Experience shows that new publishers who are trained from the beginning to have a regular and zealous share in the ministry often become effective publishers. (Pr 22:6; Php 3:16) Here are some suggestions on how you can help a student to develop a good foundation for the ministry:

- As soon as your student is approved to be a publisher, begin training him. (*km* 8/15 1) Impress on him the importance of making the ministry a part of his *weekly* routine. (Php 1:10) Be positive in your comments about the territory. (Php 4:8) Encourage him to work along with the group overseer and other publishers in order to benefit from their experience.—Pr 1:5; *km* 10/12 6 ¶3

- After your student gets baptized, do not stop encouraging him and training him in the ministry, especially if he has not completed the *"God's Love"* book. —*km* 12/13 7

- Use a simple presentation when working in the ministry with a new publisher. After hearing his presentation, give generous commendation. Offer suggestions that will help him to be more effective. —*km* 5/10 7

Be Loyal When Tempted

Watch the video *Be Loyal, as Jesus Was—When Tempted* (video category THE BIBLE), and then answer the following questions:

- How was Sergei pressured to be disloyal to God?

- What helped Sergei to remain loyal?

- How did his loyalty bring praise to Jehovah?

Be Loyal When a Relative Is Disfellowshipped

Watch the video *Loyally Uphold Jehovah's Judgments—Shun Unrepentant Wrongdoers* (video category THE BIBLE), and then answer the following questions:

- What situation tested the loyalty of Sonja's parents?

- What helped them to remain loyal?

- How did their loyalty to Jehovah benefit Sonja?

Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

AWAKE!

Question: Why is it important to prepare for disasters?

Scripture: **Pr 27:12**

Offer: This magazine highlights what we should do before, during, and after a disaster.

TEACH THE TRUTH

Question: How do we show love for God?

Scripture: **1Jo 5:3**

Truth: We show love for God by obeying his commandments.

CAN THE DEAD REALLY LIVE AGAIN? (T-35)

Question: Many sincere people around the world hold annual festivals to honor the dead. Can we hope to see our dead loved ones again?

Scripture: **Ac 24:15**

Offer: This tract discusses what the resurrection hope can mean for you. [If possible, play the video *Is There Hope for the Dead?*]

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

Offering the *Live Again* tract in Tuvalu

- Song 95 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Daniel's Prophecy Foretold the Messiah's Arrival":** (10 min.)

  Da 9:24—The Messiah's sacrifice opened the way for forgiveness of sins (*it*-2 902 ¶2)

  Da 9:25—The Messiah arrived at the end of the 69th week of years (*it*-2 900 ¶7)

  Da 9:26, 27a—The Messiah was put to death in the middle of the 70th week of years (*it*-2 901 ¶2, 5)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Da 9:24—When was "the Holy of Holies" anointed? (*w01* 5/15 27)

  Da 9:27—What covenant was kept in force for the many until the end of the 70th week of years, or 36 C.E.? (*w07* 9/1 20 ¶4)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Da 7:1-10

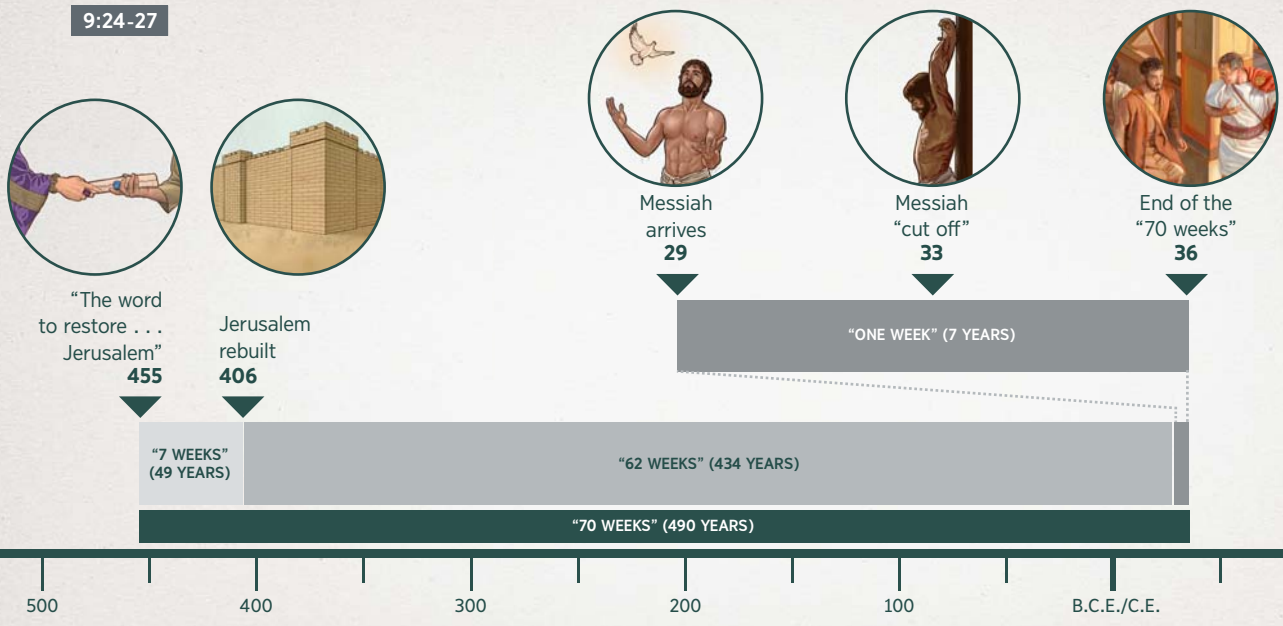
APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion based on "Sample Presentations." Play each presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Encourage publishers to follow up on any interest promptly.

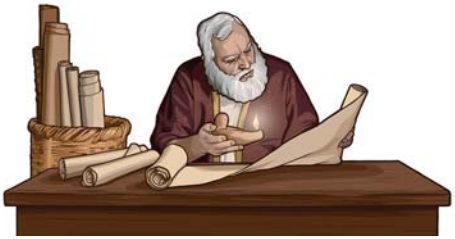
LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 78
- **"How to Become a Diligent Student of the Scriptures":** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Research Tools for Discovering Spiritual Treasures* (video category OUR MEETINGS AND MINISTRY).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 19 ¶1-7, boxes on pp. 203-205
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 101 and Prayer

DANIEL 7-9 | Daniel's Prophecy Foretold the Messiah's Arrival



How to Become a Diligent Student of the Scriptures



Would you like to be faithful under trial as Daniel was? Daniel diligently studied God's Word, including deep prophecy. (Da 9:2) Diligent Bible study can help you to remain faithful. How so? It can increase your faith that Jehovah's promises will come true. (Jos 23:14) It can also help you to increase your love for God, which will motivate you to do what is right. (Ps 97:10) But where should you begin? Consider the following suggestions.

- **What should I study?** A good study routine includes preparing for congregation meetings. The weekly Bible reading will be more rewarding if you take time to research points that you do not understand. In addition, some have chosen to learn more about Bible prophecy, the various aspects of the fruitage of God's spirit, the missionary journeys of the apostle Paul, or even Jehovah's physical creation. If you think of a Bible question during the day, write it down and make it the subject of your next study project.
- **Where can I find information?** For some options, watch the video *Research Tools for Discovering Spiritual Treasures.* To test your skills, research the identity of the world powers that are portrayed by the beasts in Daniel chapter 7.
- **How much time should I devote to study?** Regular study is a key to spiritual health. You can start with shorter study periods, if needed, and gradually increase the length. Studying God's Word is like digging for hidden treasures; the more treasure you find, the more you will want to dig! (Pr 2:3-6) Your longing for God's Word will increase, and regular Bible study will continue to be your routine.—1Pe 2:2.

For suggestions on how to make study enjoyable, see the February 2012 *Awake!,* pp. 18-20.

WHAT DO THE BEASTS OF DANIEL CHAPTER 7 REPRESENT?

Da 7:4

WORLD POWER:

Da 7:5

WORLD POWER:

Da 7:6

WORLD POWER:

Da 7:7

WORLD POWER:

EXTRA QUESTION:

How was Daniel 7:8, 24 fulfilled?

NEXT PROJECT:

What do the beasts of Revelation chapter 13 represent?

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- Song 63 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Foresaw the Future of Kings":** (10 min.)
  Da 11:2—Four kings arose for the Persian Empire (*dp* 212-213 ¶5-6)
  Da 11:3—Alexander the Great appeared (*dp* 213 ¶8)
  Da 11:4—Alexander's kingdom was divided into four parts (*dp* 214 ¶11)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Da 12:3—Who are "those having insight," and when do they "shine as brightly as the expanse of heaven"? (*w13* 7/15 13 ¶16, endnote)
  Da 12:13—In what way will Daniel "stand up"? (*dp* 315 ¶18)
  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?
  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?
- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Da 11:28-39

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

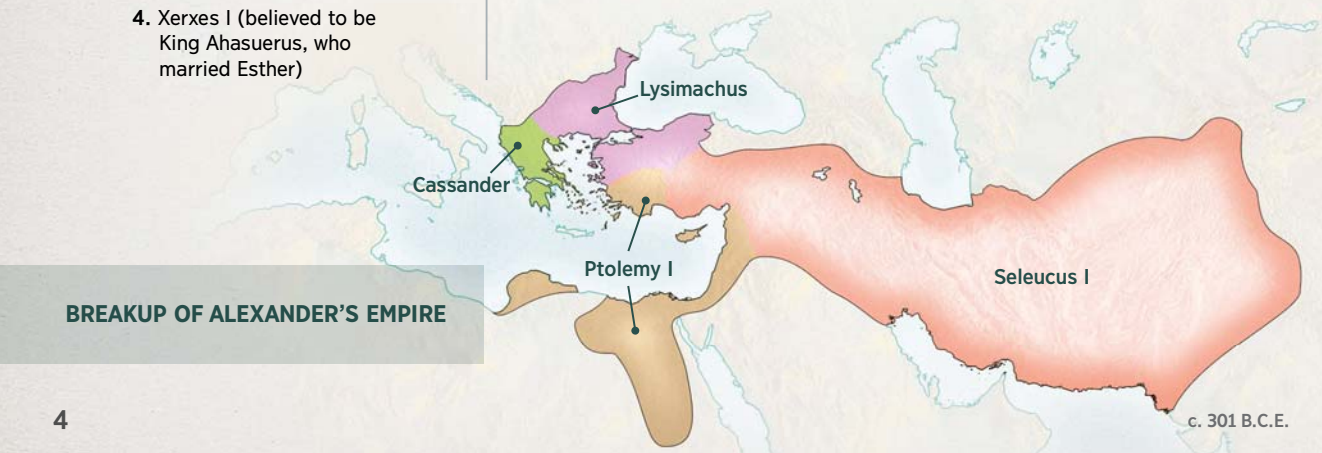
- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *g17.5* cover—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *g17.5* cover—The magazine was featured on the preceding visit. Continue the conversation, and lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Talk:** (6 min. or less) *w16.11* 5-6 ¶7-8—Theme: How Should We Imitate Jehovah's Example of Giving Encouragement?

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 94
- **Fortified by Bible Prophecy:** (15 min.) Play the video *Fortified by "the Prophetic Word"* (video category FROM OUR STUDIO).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.)
  kr chap. 19 ¶8-18, review box on p. 208
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 91 and Prayer

DANIEL 10-12 | Jehovah Foresaw the Future of Kings

11:2	11:3	11:4
Four kings would stand up for Persia. The fourth would "rouse up everything against the kingdom of Greece."	A powerful king of Greece would arise and rule an extensive empire.	The Greek Empire would be divided among four of Alexander's generals.
1. Cyrus the Great **2.** Cambyses II **3.** Darius I **4.** Xerxes I (believed to be King Ahasuerus, who married Esther)	Alexander the Great	**1.** Cassander **2.** Lysimachus **3.** Seleucus I **4.** Ptolemy I



BREAKUP OF ALEXANDER'S EMPIRE

- Song 108 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Jehovah Delights in Loyal Love—Do You?":** (10 min.)

  [Play the video *Introduction to Hosea.*]

  Ho 6:4, 5—Jehovah was displeased by the Israelites' lack of loyal love (*w10* 8/15 25 ¶18)

  Ho 6:6—Jehovah is pleased when we show loyal love (*w07* 9/15 16 ¶8; *w07* 6/15 27 ¶7)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ho 1:7—When was the house of Judah shown mercy and saved? (*w07* 9/15 14 ¶7)

  Ho 2:18—What are the past and future fulfillments of this verse? (*w05* 11/15 20 ¶16; *g05* 9/8 12 ¶2)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ho 7:1-16

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) 1Jo 5:3—Teach the Truth. Invite the person to the meetings.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) De 30:11-14; Isa 48:17, 18—Teach the Truth. Direct attention to jw.org. (See *mwb16.08* 8 ¶2.)
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *lv* 12-13 ¶16-18 —Show how to reach the heart.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 100
- **Local Needs:** (15 min.) Talk by an elder. Give a five-minute Scriptural introduction based on the November 15, 2015, *Watchtower,* page 14, and then play the video *Tutorial for Making Donations Electronically.* After the video, show the page "How to Donate to the Worldwide Work" on jw.org, and review the options for electronic donations listed for your country.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 20 ¶1-6, boxes on pp. 211, 214
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 107 and Prayer

HOSEA 1-7 | Jehovah Delights in Loyal Love—Do You?

Loyal love is love motivated by commitment, integrity, loyalty, and deep attachment. Jehovah used the experience of Hosea and his unfaithful wife, Gomer, to teach a lesson in loyal love and forgiveness.—Ho 1:2; 2:7; 3:1-5.

Write your answers in the spaces provided.

How did Gomer show a lack of loyal love?

How did Israel show a lack of loyal love?

How did Hosea show loyal love?

How did Jehovah show loyal love?

FOR MEDITATION: How can I show loyal love for Jehovah?

- Song 76 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Offer Your Very Best to Jehovah":** (10 min.)

  Ho 14:2—Jehovah highly values "the praise of our lips" (*w07* 4/1 20 ¶2)

  Ho 14:4—Jehovah grants forgiveness, approval, and friendship to those offering their best to him (*w11* 2/15 16 ¶15)

  Ho 14:9—Walking in Jehovah's ways is good for us (*jd* 87 ¶11)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Ho 10:12—What must we do to "reap loyal love" from Jehovah? (*w05* 11/15 28 ¶7)

  Ho 11:1—How were these words fulfilled in Jesus? (*w11* 8/15 10 ¶10)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ho 8:1-14

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *T-35*
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *T-35*—The tract was placed on the preceding visit. Continue the conversation, and overcome an objection raised by the householder.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *lv* 152 ¶13-15—Show how to reach the heart.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 69
- **"Live to Praise Jehovah!":** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Use Your Talent for Jehovah* (video category INTERVIEWS AND EXPERIENCES).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 20 ¶7-16, box on p. 215
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 124 and Prayer

HOSEA 8-14 | Offer Your Very Best to Jehovah

14:2, 4, 9

Offering your very best to Jehovah pleases him and benefits you

1. You offer Jehovah sacrifices of praise
2. Jehovah grants you forgiveness, approval, and friendship
3. You appreciate the benefits of obeying Jehovah's commands, and your motivation to praise him increases

DID YOU KNOW?

Bulls were the largest and most valuable animals that the Israelites sacrificed. At times, bulls were offered in behalf of the priesthood or the entire nation of Israel. Jehovah considers the praise of our lips to be one of the finest sacrifices.

In what ways can I offer my very best to Jehovah?

Live to Praise Jehovah!

Life is a precious gift. How we use this gift each day reveals how much we appreciate it. As Jehovah's Witnesses, we strive to use our talents and abilities to honor and glorify Jehovah, the Life-Giver. (Ps 36:9; Re 4:11) Yet, the anxieties related to everyday life in this wicked world could easily push spiritual pursuits to the background. (Mr 4:18, 19) Each of us does well to ask himself: 'Am I really giving my best to Jehovah? (Ho 14:2) Where is my job or career leading me? What are my spiritual goals? How can I further expand my ministry?' If you see room for improvement, pray to Jehovah for help and make the necessary adjustments. Without a doubt, praising Jehovah each day leads to a life of satisfaction and happiness!—Ps 61:8.

WATCH THE VIDEO *USE YOUR TALENT FOR JEHOVAH,* AND THEN ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- Why is it unwise to offer your talents to Satan's world? (1Jo 2:17)

- What blessings come to those who give their very best to Jehovah?

- In what avenues of sacred service might you volunteer your talents and skills?

To whom are you offering your talents?

FAMILY WORSHIP SUGGESTIONS:

- Interview a publisher who has been serving Jehovah for many years, perhaps in the full-time service. What sacrifices has he made to give his best to Jehovah? How has Jehovah blessed him?

- Go to JW Broadcasting, and look under INTERVIEWS AND EXPERIENCES > BLESSINGS OF SACRED SERVICE. You will see and hear the expressions of joy of many who have spent a lifetime in various avenues of sacred service

- Song 77 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Your Sons and Your Daughters Will Prophesy":** (10 min.)

  [Play the video *Introduction to Joel.*]

  Joe 2:28, 29—Anointed Christians serve as spokesmen for Jehovah (*w02* 8/1 15 ¶4-5; *jd* 167 ¶4)

  Joe 2:30-32—Only those who call on the name of Jehovah will be saved during his awe-inspiring day (*w07* 10/1 13 ¶2)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Joe 2:12, 13—What do these verses teach us about true repentance? (*w07* 10/1 13 ¶5)

  Joe 3:14—What is "the valley of the decision"? (*w07* 10/1 13 ¶3)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Joe 2:28–3:8

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) JW.ORG contact card
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) JW.ORG contact card —The card was placed on the preceding visit. Continue the conversation, and conclude by introducing a video from jw.org.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *lv* 196-197 ¶3-5

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 30
- **Jehovah Helps Us to Endure Trials:** (9 min.) Play the video *Jehovah Is a Strong Tower for Me* (video category INTERVIEWS AND EXPERIENCES). Then ask the audience: What trials did the Henschel family face? What impact can the faith and integrity of parents have on their children? How can Jehovah strengthen you as he did Brother Henschel?
- ***Become Jehovah's Friend—Jehovah's Name:*** (6 min.) Play the video *Become Jehovah's Friend —Jehovah's Name* (video category CHILDREN). Then invite selected young children to the stage, and ask them: What does Jehovah's name mean? What did Jehovah create? How can Jehovah help you?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 20 ¶17-19; boxes on pp. 216, 218-219; review box on p. 217
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 106 and Prayer

JOEL 1-3 | "Your Sons and Your Daughters Will Prophesy"

2:28, 29

Anointed Christians share in the work of prophesying. They speak about "the magnificent things of God" and proclaim the "good news of the Kingdom." (Ac 2:11, 17-21; Mt 24:14) The other sheep support them by participating in this work

2:32

What does it mean to 'call on the name of Jehovah'?

- To know the name
- To respect the name
- To rely on and trust in the One who bears that name

Ask yourself, 'How can I support the anointed in their work of prophesying?'

Vol. 2, No. 10

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Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations

THE WATCHTOWER

Question: Who is the greatest gift-giver in the universe?

Scripture: **Jas 1:17**

Offer: This issue of *The Watchtower* helps us to appreciate one gift from God that is the best of all.

TEACH THE TRUTH

Question: What is God's name?

Scripture: **Ps 83:18**

Truth: God's name is Jehovah.

YOUR FAMILY CAN BE HAPPY

Introduction: We're showing this short video about the family. [Play the introduction video for *Your Family Can Be Happy*.]

Offer: If you would like to read the brochure mentioned in the video, I can give you a copy or I can show you how to download it from the website.

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

Offering the *Happy Family* brochure in the country of Georgia

- Song 60 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Search for Jehovah, and Keep Living":** (10 min.)
  [Play the video *Introduction to Amos*.]
  Am 5:4, 6—We must come to know Jehovah and do his will (*w04* 11/15 24 ¶20)
  Am 5:14, 15—We must accept Jehovah's standards of good and bad and learn to love them (*jd* 90-91 ¶16-17)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Am 2:12—How can we apply the lesson found in this verse? (*w07* 10/1 14 ¶8)
  Am 8:1, 2—What did "a basket of summer fruit" signify? (*w07* 10/1 14 ¶6)
  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?
  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?
- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Am 4:1-13

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion based on "Sample Presentations." Play each presentation video, and then discuss the highlights.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 58
- **"Improving Our Skills in the Ministry—Making a Return Visit":** (15 min.) Discussion. Afterward, play and discuss the video that shows two publishers making a return visit.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* pp. 220-221, chap. 21 ¶1-7
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 143 and Prayer

AMOS 1-9 | "Search for Jehovah, and Keep Living"

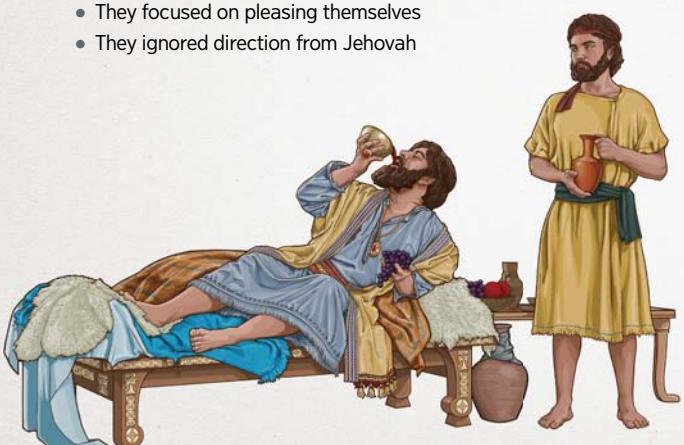
5:6, 14, 15

What does it mean to search for Jehovah?

- It means that we continue to learn about Jehovah and to live according to his standards

What happened to the Israelites when they failed to search for Jehovah?

- They stopped 'hating what was bad and loving what was good'
- They focused on pleasing themselves
- They ignored direction from Jehovah



What has Jehovah provided to help us search for him?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

IMPROVING OUR SKILLS IN THE MINISTRY

Making a Return Visit

WHY IMPORTANT: Many people who show interest in the Kingdom message are searching for the truth about God. (Isa 55:6) In order for us to teach them progressively, we must return again and again. People face different challenges, so the way we cultivate their interest will vary. However, we will be more effective if we prepare well and have an objective for each visit, with the ultimate goal of starting a Bible study.

HOW TO DO IT:

- Endeavor to return promptly, perhaps within a few days.—Mt 13:19
- Be friendly and respectful. Try to relax
- Begin with a warm greeting. Use the person's name. Remind him why you have returned—perhaps to answer a question, bring the latest magazine, show our website, play a video, or demonstrate a Bible study. Adjust your comments if he expresses interest in another subject.—Php 2:4
- Water the seed of truth planted in his heart by sharing a Scriptural thought and perhaps by leaving literature. (1Co 3:6) Try to build a rapport with him
- Lay the groundwork for the next visit

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- Song 102 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Learn From Your Mistakes":** (10 min.)
  [Play the video *Introduction to Obadiah*.]
  [Play the video *Introduction to Jonah*.]
  Jon 3:1-3—Jonah learned from his mistakes (*ia* 114 ¶22-23)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Ob 10—How did Edom "perish forever"? (*w07* 11/1 13 ¶5)
  Ob 12—What lesson can we learn from God's condemnation of Edom? (*jd* 112 ¶4-5)
  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?
  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?
- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Jon 3:1-10

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *wp17.6* cover—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *wp17.6*—The magazine was placed on the preceding visit. Demonstrate a return visit, and introduce one of our Bible study publications.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *ld* 12-13—Select which pictures to consider.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 98
- **"Lessons From the Book of Jonah":** (15 min.) Discuss the article after playing the video *Family Worship: Jonah—Learning From Jehovah's Mercy* (video category FAMILY).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 21 ¶8-14
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 150 and Prayer

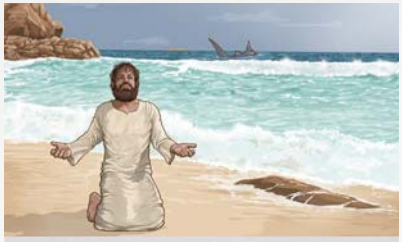
OBADIAH 1–JONAH 4 | Learn From Your Mistakes

The account of Jonah shows that Jehovah does not give up on us when we make mistakes. However, he does expect us to learn from our mistakes and make the necessary changes.

Jon 1:3

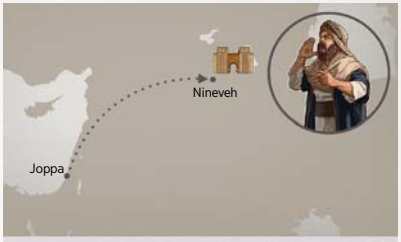
What mistake did Jonah make when he received his assignment from Jehovah?

Jon 2:1-10



What did Jonah pray about, and how did Jehovah respond?

Jon 3:1-3



How did Jonah show that he had learned from his mistakes?

- Song 31 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"What Does Jehovah Require of Us?":** (10 min.)

  [Play the video *Introduction to Micah.*]

  Mic 6:6, 7—Sacrifices are meaningless to Jehovah if we fail to treat our fellow man properly (*w08* 5/15 6 ¶20)

  Mic 6:8—Jehovah's requirements are reasonable (*w12* 11/1 22 ¶4-7)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Mic 2:12—How was this prophecy fulfilled? (*w07* 11/1 15 ¶6)

  Mic 7:7—Why should we "show a waiting attitude" for Jehovah? (*w03* 8/15 24 ¶20)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Mic 4:1-10

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) Ps 83:18—Teach the Truth. Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Ex 3:14—Teach the Truth. Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *bh* 123-124 ¶20-21.

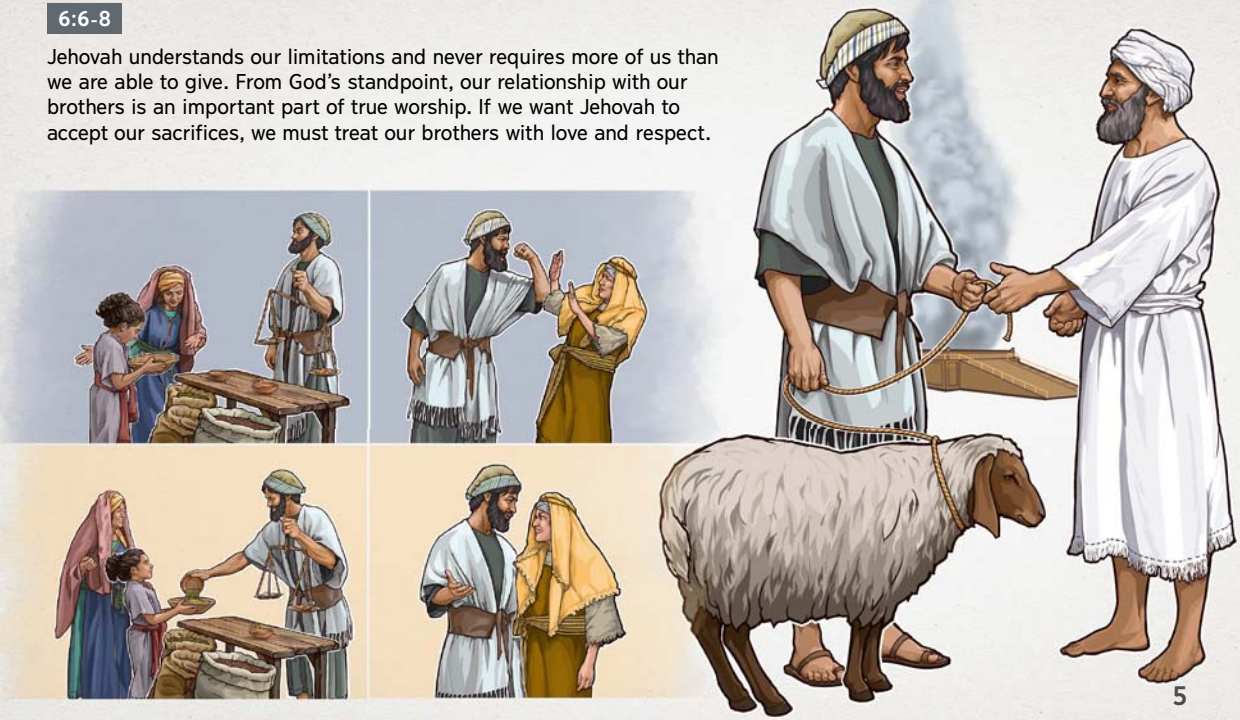
LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 28
- **Local Needs:** (6 min.)
- ***Jehovah Wants Us to Be Generous* (Prov. 3:27):** (9 min.) Play the video (video category PROGRAMS AND EVENTS).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 21 ¶15-20, chart on pp. 224-225, review box on p. 230
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 149 and Prayer

MICAH 1-7 | What Does Jehovah Require of Us?

6:6-8

Jehovah understands our limitations and never requires more of us than we are able to give. From God's standpoint, our relationship with our brothers is an important part of true worship. If we want Jehovah to accept our sacrifices, we must treat our brothers with love and respect.



- Song 129 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Remain Spiritually Alert and Active":** (10 min.)

  [Play the video *Introduction to Nahum*.]

  [Play the video *Introduction to Habakkuk*.]

  Hab 2:1-4—In order to survive the coming day of Jehovah's judgment, we must "keep in expectation of it" (*w07* 11/15 10 ¶3-5)

- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)

  Na 1:8; 2:6—How was Nineveh exterminated? (*w07* 11/15 9 ¶2)

  Hab 3:17-19—Although we may face hardship before and during Armageddon, what confidence can we have? (*w07* 11/15 10 ¶10)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Hab 2:15–3:6

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *hf*—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *hf*—The brochure was placed on the preceding visit. Demonstrate a return visit.
- **Talk:** (6 min. or less) *w16.03* 23-25—Theme: Can You Help in Your Congregation?

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 21
- **"Remain Spiritually Alert and Active When Your Circumstances Change":** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Staying Spiritually Grounded While Moving* (video category THE BIBLE).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 22 ¶1-7
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.) Inform the congregation that the offer for December will be the *Awake!* magazine with the cover subject "Is the World Out of Control?" The video presentation that is scheduled to be discussed during the next midweek meeting will be available on *JW Library* beginning November 30. Publishers should endeavor to give this issue wide distribution.
- Song 142 and Prayer

NAHUM 1–HABAKKUK 3 | Remain Spiritually Alert and Active

Hab 1:5, 6

The impending destruction of Judah by the Babylonians may have seemed unlikely. Judah was under the powerful influence of Egypt. The Chaldeans were not stronger than Egypt, were they? In addition, it was unthinkable to many Jews that Jehovah would allow Jerusalem and its temple to be destroyed. Nonetheless, the prophecy would come true, and Habakkuk needed to keep in expectation of it by remaining spiritually alert and active.

What convinces me that the end of this system of things is very near?

How can I remain spiritually alert and active?

Remain Spiritually Alert and Active When Your Circumstances Change

Changes are unavoidable, especially during these last days. (1Co 7:31) Whether expected or not, good or bad, changes can disrupt our worship and strain our relationship with Jehovah. What will help us to remain spiritually alert and active during times of change? Watch the video *Staying Spiritually Grounded While Moving,* and then answer the following questions:

What advice did one brother give the father?

How did the principle found at Matthew 7:25 apply to the family's situation?

How did the family plan ahead for the move, and how did this help them?

What helped the family to adapt to changes both in the congregation and in the territory?

Major changes that I have experienced recently:

How can I apply the principles found in this video to my situation?

Lessons From the Book of Jonah

In his Word, Jehovah has preserved the life stories of men and women of faith in order to teach us valuable lessons. (Ro 15:4) What did you learn from the book of Jonah? Watch the video *Family Worship: Jonah—Learning From Jehovah's Mercy*, and then answer the following questions:

What challenges did the three publishers in the video face?

How can the book of Jonah encourage us if we have been disciplined or have lost privileges of service? (1Sa 16:7; Jon 3:1, 2)

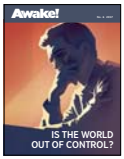
How can Jonah's account help us to maintain a positive view of our territory? (Jon 4:11; Mt 5:7)

How can Jonah's experience comfort us when we are experiencing chronic health problems? (Jon 2:1, 2, 7, 9)

What did you learn from this video about the value of Bible reading and meditation?

Our Christian Life and Ministry
MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Presentations



AWAKE!
Question: Why is the world spinning out of control?

Scripture: **Jer 10:23**

Offer: This magazine explains why millions of people believe in a bright future.

AWAKE!
Question: Does God have a name?

Scripture: **Ps 83:18**

Offer: This article discusses what God's name means and why we should use that name. [Open to the article "The Bible's Viewpoint—God's Name."]

TEACH THE TRUTH
Question: Will there ever be an end to the enemy death?

Scripture: **1Co 15:26**

Truth: Jehovah will remove death permanently.

BUILD YOUR OWN PRESENTATION

Question:

Scripture:

Offer:

Preaching in a market in Sierra Leone

- Song 27 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Seek Jehovah Before His Day of Anger":** (10 min.)
  [Play the video *Introduction to Zephaniah.*]
  Zep 2:2, 3—Seek Jehovah, seek righteousness, seek meekness (*w01* 2/15 18-19 ¶5-7)
  [Play the video *Introduction to Haggai.*]
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Zep 1:8—What warning do we find in this verse? (*w07* 11/15 11 ¶3)

  Hag 2:9—In what ways was the glory of Zerubbabel's temple greater than that of Solomon's temple? (*w07* 12/1 9 ¶3)

  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?
- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Hag 2:1-14

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Prepare This Month's Presentations:** (15 min.) Discussion based on "Sample Presentations." Play each presentation video, and then discuss the highlights. Encourage publishers to give wide distribution of *Awake!* No. 6 2017. However, because we desire to speak directly with people, we should not leave the current magazine at not-at-homes.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 23
- **Local Needs:** (5 min.)
- **The Pure Language Promotes Peace and Unity (Zep 3:9):** (10 min.) Discussion based on the August 15, 2012, *Watchtower,* page 12, paragraph 4. Play the video *Former Enemies Who Became Friends* (video category INTERVIEWS AND EXPERIENCES).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.)
  kr chap. 22 ¶8-16
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 22 and Prayer

ZEPHANIAH 1–HAGGAI 2 | Seek Jehovah Before His Day of Anger

Zep 2:2, 3

In order for Jehovah to conceal us on the day of his anger, we must do more than dedicate ourselves to him. We must obey the direction that Zephaniah gave to the Israelites.

- **Seek Jehovah:** Maintain a warm personal relationship with Jehovah in association with his organization
- **Seek righteousness:** Uphold Jehovah's righteous standards
- **Seek meekness:** Humbly submit to God's will and accept his discipline

How might I seek Jehovah, righteousness, and meekness to a greater degree?

- Song 26 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Take Firm Hold of the Robe of a Jew":** (10 min.)
  [Play the video *Introduction to Zechariah.*]
  Zec 8:20-22—People of all the languages of the nations seek Jehovah's favor (*w14* 11/15 27 ¶14)
  Zec 8:23—Those with an earthly hope willingly accompany and support the anointed remnant (*w16.01* 23 ¶4; *w09* 2/15 27 ¶14)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Zec 5:6-11—What is our responsibility regarding wickedness today? (*w17.10* 25 ¶18)
  Zec 6:1—What do the two copper mountains represent? (*w17.10* 27-28 ¶7-8)
  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?
  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?
- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Zec 8:14-23

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *g17.6* cover—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *g17.6*—The magazine was placed on the preceding visit. Demonstrate a return visit, and lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *fg* lesson 5 ¶1-2.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 70
- **"Improving Our Skills in the Ministry—Contacting Everyone in Our Territory":** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Preaching in "the Most Distant Part of the Earth"* (video category OUR MEETINGS AND MINISTRY).
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.)
  kr chap. 22 ¶17-24, review box on p. 240
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 139 and Prayer

ZECHARIAH 1-8 | "Take Firm Hold of the Robe of a Jew"

8:20-23

Ten men out of all the languages of the nations would take firm hold of the robe of a Jew, saying: "We want to go with you." During these last days, people of all nations are flocking to worship Jehovah along with anointed Christians

What are some ways in which the other sheep support the anointed today?

- They wholeheartedly share in the preaching work

- They wholeheartedly support the work financially

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- Song 8 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Stay in 'the Valley of the Mountains'":** (10 min.)
  Zec 14:3, 4—The "very great valley" represents divine protection (*w13* 2/15 19 ¶10)
  Zec 14:5—Those who "flee to the valley" and stay there will be protected (*w13* 2/15 20 ¶13)
  Zec 14:6, 7, 12, 15—Those outside Jehovah's valley of protection will be destroyed (*w13* 2/15 20 ¶15)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Zec 12:3—How does Jehovah "make Jerusalem a heavy stone"? (*w07* 12/15 22-23 ¶9-10)
  Zec 12:7—How will Jehovah "save the tents of Judah first"? (*w07* 12/15 25 ¶13)
  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?
  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?
- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Zec 12:1-14

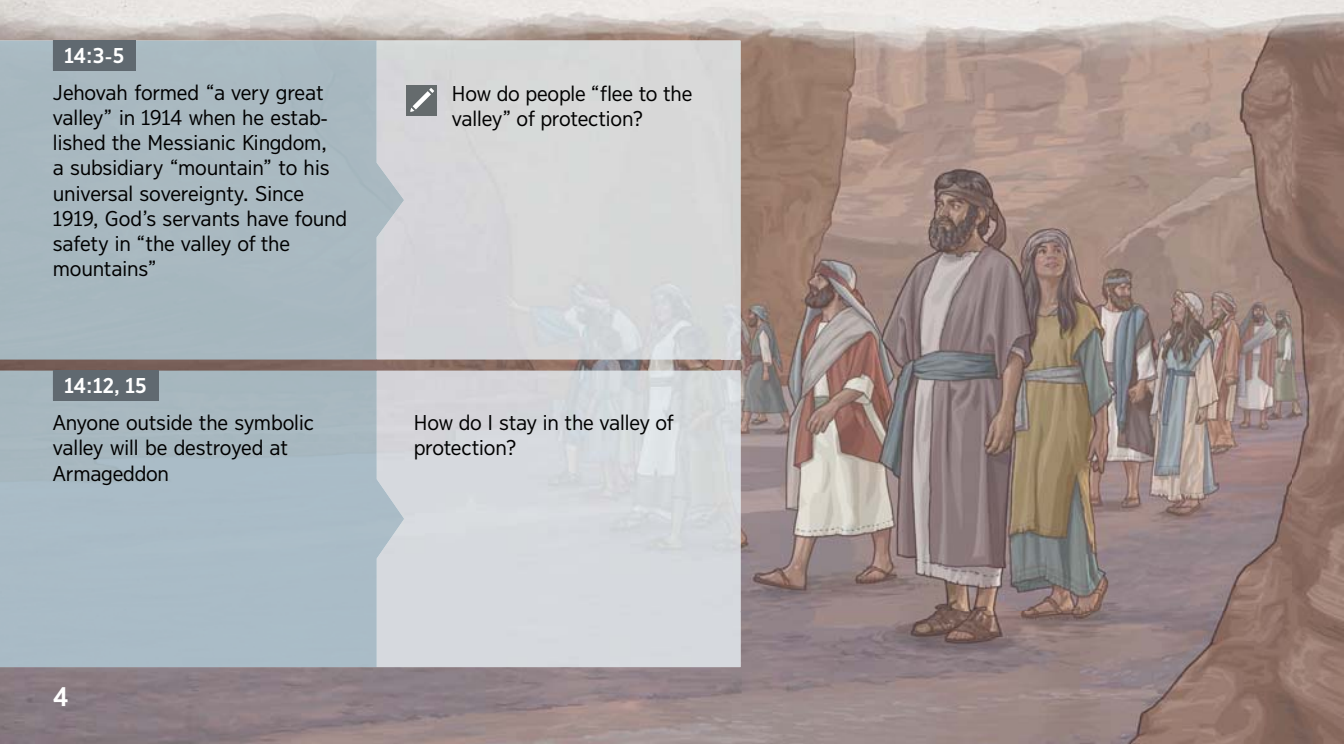
APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *g17.6* 14-15—Invite the person to our meetings.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *g17.6*—Pages 14 and 15 of the magazine were considered on the preceding visit. Demonstrate a return visit, and invite the person to our meetings.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *jl* lesson 5—Invite the person to our meetings.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 68
- **Organizational Accomplishments:** (7 min.) Play the *Organizational Accomplishments* video for December.
- **"New Feature of the Midweek Meeting":** (8 min.) Discussion. Show the silent video *Bethphage, the Mount of Olives, and Jerusalem.*
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *jy* pp. 6-7
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 13 and Prayer

ZECHARIAH 9-14 | Stay in "the Valley of the Mountains"



14:3-5

Jehovah formed "a very great valley" in 1914 when he established the Messianic Kingdom, a subsidiary "mountain" to his universal sovereignty. Since 1919, God's servants have found safety in "the valley of the mountains"

How do people "flee to the valley" of protection?

14:12, 15

Anyone outside the symbolic valley will be destroyed at Armageddon

How do I stay in the valley of protection?

New Feature of the Midweek Meeting

Beginning in January 2018, the midweek meeting will include study notes and media from the online study edition of the *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures* (*nwtsty*), even if the study edition is not yet available in your language. No doubt this information will enrich your meeting preparation. More important, may it draw you ever closer to our loving Father, Jehovah!

STUDY NOTES

The study notes provide cultural, geographic, and linguistic insight into many Bible verses.

Matthew 12:20

Smoldering wick: A common household lamp was a small earthenware vessel filled with olive oil. A flax wick drew the oil up to feed the flame. The Greek expression "smoldering wick" may refer to a wick that gives off smoke because an ember is still present but the flame is fading or is extinguished. The prophecy of Isaiah 42:3 foretold Jesus' compassion; he would never extinguish the last spark of hope in humble and downtrodden people.

Matthew 26:13

Truly: Greek, *a·men′,* a transliteration of the Hebrew *'a·men′,* meaning "so be it," or "surely." Jesus frequently uses this expression to preface a statement, a promise, or a prophecy, thereby emphasizing its absolute truthfulness and reliability. Jesus' use of "truly," or amen, in this way is said to be unique in sacred literature. When repeated in succession (*a·men′ a·men′*), as is the case throughout the Gospel of John, Jesus' expression is translated "most truly."—Joh 1:51.

MEDIA

Photos, artwork, and silent videos and animations illustrate various details recorded in the Bible.

Bethphage, the Mount of Olives, and Jerusalem

This short video follows a path approaching Jerusalem from the east, from the village of modern-day et-Tur—thought to correspond to the Biblical Bethphage—to one of the higher points on the Mount of Olives. Bethany lies east of Bethphage on the eastern slope of the Mount of Olives. When in Jerusalem, Jesus and his disciples customarily spent the night at Bethany, today marked by the town of el-ʻAzariyeh (El ʻEizariya), an Arabic name meaning "The Place of Lazarus." Jesus undoubtedly stayed at the home of Martha, Mary, and Lazarus. (Mt 21:17; Mr 11:11; Lu 21:37; Joh 11:1) When traveling from their home to Jerusalem, Jesus may have followed a route similar to the one shown in the video. On Nisan 9, 33 C.E., when Jesus rode the colt of a donkey over the Mount of Olives to Jerusalem, he may well have done so from Bethphage, following the road to Jerusalem.

1. Road from Bethany to Bethphage
2. Bethphage
3. Mount of Olives
4. Kidron Valley
5. Temple Mount

Nail in a Heel Bone

This is a photograph of a replica of a human heel bone pierced by an iron nail that was 11.5 cm (4.5 in.) long. The original artifact was found in 1968, during excavations in northern Jerusalem, and dates to Roman times. It provides archaeological evidence that nails were likely used in executions to fasten the person to a wooden stake. This nail may be similar to the nails employed by the Roman soldiers to fasten Jesus Christ to the stake. The artifact was found in a stone box, called an ossuary, into which the dried bones of a deceased person were placed after the flesh had decomposed. This indicates that someone executed on a stake could be given a burial.—Mt 27:35.

Photo Clara Amit, Courtesy of the Israel Antiquities Authority

- Song 131 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- **"Does Your Marriage Please Jehovah?":** (10 min.)
  [Play the video *Introduction to Malachi.*]
  Mal 2:13, 14—Jehovah despises marital treachery (*jd* 125-126 ¶4-5)
  Mal 2:15, 16—Stay loyal to your marriage mate (*w02* 5/1 18 ¶19)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
  Mal 1:10—Why must our acts of worship be motivated by unselfish love for God and neighbor? (*w07* 12/15 27 ¶1)
  Mal 3:1—How was this verse fulfilled in the first century and in modern times? (*w13* 7/15 10-11 ¶5-6)
  What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?
  What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?
- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Mal 1:1-10

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) 1Co 15:26—Teach the Truth.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Isa 26:19; 2Co 1:3, 4—Teach the Truth. (See *mwb16.08* 8 ¶2.)
- **Talk:** (6 min. or less) *w07* 12/15 28 ¶1—Theme: How Do We Bring the Entire Tithe Into the Storehouse Today?

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 132
- ***"What Is True Love?":*** (15 min.) Questions and answers.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *jy* chap. 1
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 96 and Prayer

MALACHI 1-4 | Does Your Marriage Please Jehovah?

2:13-16

- In Malachi's day, many Israelites obtained a divorce for frivolous reasons. Jehovah did not accept the worship of those who dealt treacherously with their mate
- Jehovah blessed those who treated their mate honorably

How can marriage mates today remain loyal with regard to their . . .

thoughts?

eyes?

speech?

What Is True Love?

Jehovah designed marriage to be a permanent bond between a man and a woman. (Ge 2:22-24) Divorce would be an option only in cases of sexual immorality. (Mal 2:16; Mt 19:9) Since Jehovah wants marriages to be happy, he has provided principles that can help Christians to select a mate wisely and to maintain a happy marriage.—Ec 5:4-6.

WATCH THE VIDEO *WHAT IS TRUE LOVE?,* AND THEN ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- Why was the correction that Frank and Bonnie gave to their daughter, Liz, both wise and loving?

- Why is it unwise to think that you can change the person you are courting?

- What wise advice did Paul and Priscilla give to Liz?

- Why did problems develop in the marriage of Zach and Megan?

- What spiritual pursuits did John and Liz share in common?

- Why should you get to know “the secret person of the heart” of someone before exchanging marriage vows with that person? (1Pe 3:4)

- What is true love? (1Co 13:4-8)

Where can Christians find additional information regarding dating?	Where can married couples find helpful counsel?
• JW Broadcasting video series *Preparing for Marriage* • JW.ORG video *Is It Love or Infatuation?* • *Questions Young People Ask—Answers That Work,* Volumes 1 and 2 • *Research Guide for Jehovah’s Witnesses* (Go to “Family Life,” then “Dating and Courtship.”)	• JW.ORG articles (Look under BIBLE TEACHINGS > HELP FOR THE FAMILY.) • Brochure *Your Family Can Be Happy* • Book *The Secret of Family Happiness* • *Research Guide for Jehovah’s Witnesses* (Go to “Family Life,” then “Marriage.”)

IMPROVING OUR SKILLS IN THE MINISTRY

Contacting Everyone in Our Territory

WHY IMPORTANT: Zechariah prophesied that people out of all the languages of the nations would respond favorably to the good news. (Zec 8:23) But who will teach them? (Ro 10:13-15) We have the privilege and responsibility to share the good news with everyone in our territory.—*od* 84 ¶10-11.

HOW TO DO IT:

- Prepare. Do you encounter people who speak another language? You can use the *JW Language* app to learn a simple presentation. Or using your mobile device, you can show a person how he can find more information in his language on jw.org
- Be observant. If you are working from house to house, do not overlook opportunities to witness to passersby or those waiting in cars. If you are involved in public witnessing, stay focused on your objective to give a witness
- Be diligent. Keep trying to reach those who are not at home initially. Make an effort to contact someone at every residence, perhaps at a different time of the day or on a different day of the week. Some householders may need to be contacted by letter, telephone, or street witnessing
- Follow through. Return promptly to follow up on any interest shown. If the person speaks a different language, try to find someone who is qualified to help him in his language. You should continue calling on the person until he is contacted by publishers who speak his language.—*od* 94 ¶39-40

WATCH THE VIDEO *PREACHING IN "THE MOST DISTANT PART OF THE EARTH,"* AND THEN CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- What preparations did the brothers and sisters make to contact people in remote territory? (1Co 9:22, 23)

_____

- What obstacles did they have to overcome?

_____

- What blessings did they enjoy?

_____

- What efforts can you make to contact more people in your territory?

_____

▸ The service overseer should make sure that all the congregation's territory is regularly covered. Some bodies of elders have organized special days during the month so that publishers can spend an entire day working in an area that is not frequently covered.

Vol. 2, No. 12

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